

Ind. History. Civil war.

Brown, 2

PAMPHLET FILE

Winamac, Ind. April 22, 1884

INDIANA ROOM

REFERENCE
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My Dear Comrade and Friend:

I feel that I must not delay longer to ans. your two very interesting letters both of which were duly rec'd. also several installments of your city papers. Your letters gave me very great satisfaction both in the way of hearing from you personally of your good health and fair prosperity and also in having such a clear comprehension and detailed description of your city and country, am not sure that you ought to take up Journalism as a profession. Your country interests me very much and I think I must at least see it at- no far distant day, but I must have said more than I intended if your inference is justified that I could settle there sigh away. When I wrote to you first I had taken no steps to get one of business here and did not announce my intention of doing so until about Feb. 1. I began thus to close out a stock of goods of the value of about \$20000 and settle up a business such as I have had including some real estate to dispose of requires time - more I am afraid than I had thought. Times are really quite stringent here, people are very conservative about parting with money, I had thought that probably I could get most of the goods sold. All that I can sell at retail by about the first of June and then I would spend the summer mostly looking around and in trying to get better health. If my health does not get considerably better I can not linger in any regular business to any profit and do not intend to.

I had not expected to find such a fine opening for a bank as you speak of in your city. We have a population of between 1200 to 1500 yet we have only two banks and both are doing well.

Civil War, History and Documents

I have more miss goings in going to your state about society and politics than anything else. I am not a politician and not a solid Republican, but that Bourbon, Norsbock element of the sough is particularly disagreeable to me.

The element that does nothing morally or educationally but opposes everything; that has little ambition above whipping a "nigger" or bullying somebody and where one fear is that people of the "north" will rule over the country-- I don't believe I could be content away. Such a people in the garden of Eden, I was down in the bluegrass region of Ky. some years ago and while many of the people there were of the best and the country was almost paradisaical I did not like it. Of course I do not say such is the case with you for I do not know, but it is a fear I am in thinking of Mo.

Still time is working its changes and it does seem to me that that once state of affairs must seem to be all over the slavery cussed south- before a great while.

We have had a long and extremely cold winter;; in fact old Borrass still lingers and holds his frigid sway over us, for 24 or 36 hours now we have had a light N. W. wind blowing at a fearful rate and of about the right temperature to chill a person to the bone in 5 minutes. Still we are hoping for spring and the vitatezing blows of a summer sun.

Did I tell you that Jno. Pradway of old Co. "C" lives near here? He was back among the boys at Edinburgh last week and brings fresh news from most of the boys. Did I say anything in my former letter about my thoughts of writing a history of Co. C. or possibly of the 27th if I have the leisure that I am expecting to have for the next year or two and can get the necessary facts it would be a "labor of love", if the thing should enhance one Co. C. I would probably put it in the form of a lecture and deliver it at a few places where it

would be of interest. Of course if it should embrace the outer Reg't it ought to be a good size'd book. I believe the subject is one worthy of the endeavour, what do you think about it? Do you know of any one who kept a diary covering either the or whole or a part of the time? I wrote to Maj. Colgron with reference to it addressing my letter to Winchester. He had heard nothing so far. Jno. Pradway learned through Ol Ferguson and the boys around Edinburgh that Col. Colgrave lives in Chicago. The first time I go there (and I go frequently) I intend hunting the crusty old chap up and if he don't curse me clear into the lower regions. Maybe I can find out from him how the land lays. Jno P. says Ol Ferguson was quite enthusiastic over the plan. I also suggested the plan of holding a reunion of the regiment some time this summer or fall, to Maj. Colgrave, I would go a long distance to me. Hope it is not the limited and partisan view which we may have had which in the service, but a somewhat extended and very careful comparison of facts and figures convinces me that very few Reg'ts from Ind or any other state made a more honorable or praiseworthy record than the 27th. That too under circumstances not so inviting and enspiriting by a great deal as those with which many other regiments were favored. That fight we made in that Clover pasture at Antietam is well nigh unparalleled. I can't say that I have met with the account of anything else any where, in all respects equal to it. The same is true of the stand as made that evening at Chancellorsville where the 11th Corps stampeeded, the conduct of the Reg't on that occasion was simply sublime! And when one Reg't under similar circumstances opposed to such a fury and tempest of confusion and ~~teareat~~ such an irresistable sweep of terror and dismay and wont-stands its ground, keeps cool and does thorough and effictive work, 100 takes to its heels and news away. And I believe that common justice demands that men who have done such things from loyal and patr-

iotic motives should have them made a matter of permanent record. Should be glad to hear from you on the subject and if you have correspondance with any other members of the Co. or Reg't either officers or men--mention the sub. to them and let us work it up a little any way. If any other member of the Reg't will undertake it, very well. I should gladly give up to him if others think him better qualkfied and help him in every way possible.

In respect to my business affairs I shall push matters as fast as I can and I think I shall at least come and see you as soon as I get far enough advanced in settling up here. If I should locate with you it would be just be my hand to have you with me in my business if we could arrange the terms satisfactorily and I see you have a post of the J. A R. and Poesby, Ch. there† That much is good anyway. Remember me kindly to your family. I had hoped to be able to send you pictures of my little family in this but was unable to do so as yet.

Yours Fraternally

E. R. Brown

ANSON H. CLARK

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Died near Rappahanock Station Va. on Sept. 11th 1863
Anson Hart Clark aged 23 years 5 months and 13 days

And when he died a hero died - a soldier in defense of his country and of the Right. He was a native of Putnamville in this county where he resided until about the middle of August 1861 when he enlisted under the banner of Liberty and became a member of Co I 27th Regt Ind vol. Of the young men from this county "honorable mention has been made before for Anson was not the first of that noble Regiment to fall. Reed, and Swartz, and Deveraux, at Culpepper, Good af Antielam Hamrick at Chancellorsville and Gilmore at Gettysburg found gory graves. but he, shielded from ball and bayonet having endured hardship toil and imprisonment died of disease, none the less honored by the cause in which they were all engaged. His life was one of the many sacrificed upon the altar of his country and has added its weight of influence whether small or great to the cause of freedom.

I have made some extracts from his letters home that will give a better idea of his sentiments and principals than anything I can say.

"I often in thinking of the future wonder if I shall ever again be permitted to sit around my father's hearthstone and see the family in one unbroken circle. I fear such will never be the case. In the eighteen months I have been soldiering I have learned many things I never could have learned at home I have seen such suffering in the human family as language would fail to express or pen to portray. Toil hardship and danger have become a second nature and though I fear nothing that I may have to encounter in this fearful struggle for Right and Liberty I would not have you think that I have lost any of the finer thoughts and feelings that belonged to a home life; on the contrary I think it has tended to deepen and confirm the many kind and useful lessons taught me when younger and now that I have reached manhood and experienced some of its trials my highest ambition is that I may live to be an honor to you my Mother and Father and to be honorable, useful man in society"

"I expect from this time forth to advocate my principles in favor of the Government if I lose every friend I have in the world and my life too" Mar 1st 1863

I should like very much to have been at Bethel meeting as it is more than eighteen months since I attended public worship in a sanctuary and more than ten since I heard a sermon in the field. April 22nd 1863

I hope we shall be successful in the coming contest on the

Rappahanock I expect to endeavor to do my duty let the results be as they may. I have not forgotten any of you and would like best of any thing in the world to see you" In another he wrote the names of the family in order and adds "when shall we all meet again" and a verse of "Do they miss me at home" He several times sent home choice extracts of poetry one of which is a soldier's letter to his mother. It expresses his sentiments truly.

"Dear Mother - in my lonesome tent
With battle whispers on the air
I weave some pleasant dreams of home
And wish myself a moment there
The loved, the lost of passing time
Are crowding on my visioned sight
And memoried faces float along
Embedded in the dreamy light
The dear familiar ones are there
And half my reaching fancy hears
Some gentle voice I have not heard
In what to me seems weary years
The shadows pass, and one by one
I misty grayness disappear
A single form remains with me
Tis thine still thine, my mother dear

My mother's love/ its memory falls
In silent throbs upon my heart;
And through its frozen channel calls
The life-blood back with sudden start
Dear mother-now that time has thrown
A softness over all the past
I feel the truth that thine alone
Of all my loves, was love to last
I know that memory nerved my hand
When round me battle-thunders whisled
And saved me when our little band
With broken ranks, was backward hurled
And so where'er through life I roam
Though hope of meeting may be vain
In dreams I'll still revisit home
In dreams I'll be a boy again
And though there's many a callous heart
Will greet me with a silent sneer
I care not for their worldly art
So thou will love me mother dear"

At the time of Banks's retreat in May of 1862 he was taken prisoner. After undergoing hardship and fatigue he reached Belle Island where he remained for two months suffering hunger thirst and want of sufficient clothing

He endured it bravely and with characteristic kindness while there gave his blanket to a sick and dying friend. He was exchanged in almost five months after he was taken prisoner after which he removed to the Engineer Corps which

situation he liked very much.

As was natural he desired promotion for nothing more he said than that he might the better assist his parents but of that he was disappointed, as he was also of coming home but he never murmured. June 8th 1863 "I know that life is uncertain and of course more so under the present circumstances than ordinarily and that is one reason I should like so much to see you all" Aug 30th "One year ago today I was on Belle Island starving, today I am in a pleasant camp with plenty of Uncle Sam's rations and a year from today I hope if alive to take dinner with you"

Soon after another came written by a friend at his dictation. He says of his sickness "My condition here makes me think of home If I was there I know I could have some care taken of me"

"I remain a true son "These were his last words home. Soon another letter came announcing his death. Thus fell another "brave boy"

M.E.G. (Mary Elizabeth Grigsby)
Putnamville, Ind

Dear Mrs Clark:

I am enclosing a xerox copy of a letter written by Mr. John Finton to his daughter during the Civil War. Mr. Finton was the grandfather of Mrs. Eythl Johnson (Miss Ethyl Mars) and the letter was written to her mother.

The other is a copy of an article which appeared in the Farmersburg News and was written by Mrs Alice Quin and Mrs Lillis Stranahan who both reside in Prairie Creek. I thought you would find them interesting and to add to the Historical Society Collection.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Brown

Prairie Creek, Indiana 47869

In front of Atlanta

Aug 24th 1864

Dear Daughter;— I take the present opportunity of addressing you a few lines to let you know that I am still alive and able to be about. I am pretty well used up with the Rheumatism, but I intend to follow the Regiment as long as I am able to walk, I want to be at the taking of Atlanta, we are in our fourth line of works, our lines are about two hundred yards apart, and our front line is within about two hundred yards of the Rebels works as a general thing, but in some places our lines are within one hundred yards of their works.

We have built our last line of works here, if we advance on the Rebels here any more we will

have to storm and carry their works, and if we undertake to do that we will loose a great many men. they have verry strong works about as strong as they can be made, we have our works strong that I think we can repulse the enemy if they do not come more than ten or twelve lines deep.

We have an unusual quite here in our front for two days the, Rebs does not shoot nor our boys does not, the Rebs have not fired a gun ^(cannon) for four days but our artillery keeps up a constant fire from our thirty two pounders, who fire in ^{the} city every five minutes to the gun I cannot tell how many guns are at work, but they keep up a constant fire, about one dg in the week all the guns fire every week five minutes which makes a terrible noise, there is one thing certin there will have to be something done, we cannot lay in this

way long.

The Rebs have succeeded in cutting the Railroad leading from here to Chattanooga, and the only road we can get our grub and mails over, but our men have repaired it now, and trains are now running regularly, bring our mails and grub.

If you would take such things as you want to send to me by mail to Tera Haute, where they know what the law is on Postage, you would have no trouble in sending anything that does not wey more than four pounds and the price is sixteen cents per pound. The law passed last winter, and the Soldiers are getting packages every day, but the post master in Parictor does not know what is right, you have paid 24 cents for two plugs of tobacco, that was enough to pay the postage on one pound and a half. by the office at Tera Haute.

I have not yet got that Tobacco you say that you have sent by some Soldier and I do not expect to get it untill this campaign is over for the men back in Hospitals stay there as long as they can.

I understand that the paymasters have come up and if we can get time enough we will be paid off,

I can get paper enough now to write on so you need not send any, I am acting orderly Sargent at this time all of our Sargents are back sick.

Levi Carpenter died on the 13th of August at 4 o'clock in the Hospital at Nashville,

I have nothing more to write so I will close by remaining yours till death

John Finton

Prairie Creek Pair Recalls Living In The Good Old Days

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

We are sending this article for your paper, "The Good Old Days". We read your news paper a neighbor receives and like it so well we have subscribed for it together. We are members of the Methodist Church and attend regularly.

September of 1910, we went on the train from Terre Haute, Indiana to Gordon, Nebraska, located in the northwest portion of Nebraska. Mart and Lillis Stranahan, age 31-28. Hubert and Alice Quinn, age 24-20. Mart had a job feeding 600 head of cattle in winter and in the summer he did haying on the "Billie Beck Ranch". They lived with him in his ranch house and Lillis cooked for him. He was a bachelor from Germany.

Hubert had a job feeding cattle in winter, farming and haying in the summer on the "Rollin Hanchet Ranch". They lived in Mr. Hanchetts homestead house, two rooms one being a soddy.

The spring of 1911, each family filed on a homestead of 640 acres each. We were to live seven months out of each year for three years on this homestead. We could be off five months each year to work and save enough money to live the other seven months on the homestead.

Each family built a little house of two rooms with one outside door and two windows. We also built a small barn and chicken house and drove a well. While building we lived on our land. In May there came a big snow one night. Stranahans room and bed was covered with snow. Lillis said when she got up the snow was six inches on the bed. Quinn's room was covered with snow too. They went back to the ranch where they worked until warmer weather.

We had no electricity, telephone, radio or T.V. We were six miles from a post office, which was in a home or a soddy. The mail came once a week. Tweney-three miles from Gordon, in the Sand Hills is where we bought our groceries and supplies. We would drive our wagon into town a couple times a year for supplies. We lived two miles from each other. We usually visited each Sunday as no one lived closer.

During this time a baby girl, Juanita was born to Hubert and Alice. Two years later a baby boy, George was born on the homestead.

For Fuel we used cow chips, each of us women would drive the horses to the wagon. Mart and Hubert would walk and pitch the chips in the wagon with the hay forks. We gathered about 20 loads each for the winter and stacked them near our door.

One winter we were out of chicken feed and groceries, Hubert and Mart went to Gordon in a spring wagon. Alice and Baby Juanita stayed with Lillis. Lillis sent eggs she had carefully saved to help pay for groceries. They put the lantern under the lap robe. I think Mart walked several miles to keep warm. When they got to Gordon the eggs had frozen and bursted. When Hubert arrived home several hens had frozen. It was twenty below zero that day. One winter we had a blizzard which lasted three days nad nights. The snow was so dense we had to keep the door closed tight to keep the snow out. We couldn't see three feet in front of us. After the blizzard was over the snow had drifted over Mart and Lillis chicken house and spring wagon shed and froze. One could walk on top of the drifts. At one time the weather was forty below zero. It was often thirty-five below zero. Sometimes we would sleep with most of our clothes on to keep warm. Our fires would go out of nights. Frost would be on every nail head and door hinges. At this time the Coyotes were hungry and would

howl so mournfully of nights and run in droves.

One five months, the Stranshans moved ten miles to Lavaca Flats on the Niobrara River and farmed and raised potatoes. They hired the Indians to pick them up after they had been plowed up. Every summer the Indians would come to the Niobrara River to pick choke cherries.

One fall Hubert and Alice and children moved two miles south of the Indian reservation. While there Juanita, 2 1/2 years of age ran away. We were terribly frightened. After looking and calling, Hubert climbed on the top of the barn, there he saw her almost a half mile away. He lost no time in riding after her.

While we were on our homesteads, we had cows for our milk and butter, raised our potatoes, baked all of our bread. Usually we had a few chickens and sometimes would have jack rabbits for our meat.

One summer Alice locked the children in the house and went after the cow. When she came back a rattle snake was laying not far from the door. She managed to get in and get the shot gun and stood it.

We both proved up on our homesteads. Then we sold out to the ranchers for grazing land and came back to Indiana.

We are now both widows and living alone. The daughter, Juanita of Hubert and Alice was a nurse in World War II, and was killed in the service in Germany. The son, George is a Methodist minister.

With all our hardships looking back, it was the happiest time of our lives

PAMPHLET FILE

INDIANA ROOM

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CIVIL WAR LETTERS

by

GEORGE A. GRAFF

THE CIVIL WAR

I know nothing about Fort Sumpter, Bull Run, Antietam, nor the surrender of the Confederate Army, except as I read about them in History, not much then.

To me, as to most young people, and to some who were not so young, was meant the beating of drums, the playing of the fife, the music of the band, the bluecoated soldiers and the parades.

But war was brought fight to our door. Camp Dick Thompson was located on the Bloomington Road. Until recently I always thought it occupied the field where the new high school now stands, but I have been told it was farther east, but no matter about that, it was filled with soldiers; they were constantly passing our house, either singly or in parade, and we young people wondered what could be so dreadful about war; it seemed nothing to us but just a gay time, but I find this in my father's record book "Aug. 23, 1862, Will^{ie} left with the 71st regiment for Indianapolis." Think of it. A boy young enough to be spoken of as "Willie" going to the defense of his country.

It wasn't daylight; we heard the tap, tap, tap of the drum and the tramp, tramp of young feet, but to me it didn't seem so dreadful; they were soldier boys, and they were going someplace to the sound of music. This was on Sunday, I think, the 71st had been in camp only about a week raw recruits- had never been drilled. The next Sunday came the news there had been a battle, just a little skirmish at Richmond, Kentucky. Colonel Topping was killed. All Terre Haute was thrown into mourning for this meant more than the beating of drums and the blowing of horns

I think this battle was considered of too little importance to even mentioned in history, but it left aching hearts in Terre Haute.

Later I found this in my Father's record book. "September, 1862. Colonel Topping was buried today". Up to this time we had heard nothing

of "Willie". Again I find this in my father's book- "Willie was wounded" but there is no date.

At last, after long weeks of waiting, my uncle Mr. Chas. Wood, who was engaged in railroad service, and who was constantly on the lookout, learned rather indefinitely that he was in a hospital, a prisoner, badly wounded. Mr. Charles Hoff who used to keep a brick yard, offered to try to get into the enemy's camp. He succeeded in doing so and I find this record "Oct. 18, 1862. Willie brought home" I recollect distinctly how he looked when he was carried in, just like those horrible pictures we see of starving children, but beaming with joy. He was at home. For months he lay in bed suffering agony, but finally he could get about on crutches, but he never fully recovered. He always said the Sisters of Charity kept him alive.

Of the boys besides my brother who were in Company E of the 71st Regiment, I recall John Ball and George Graff. The latter, George Graff, served through the war and fought at Gettysburg, but the hardships of war were too great; he lost his mind and I think, died in an insane asylum.

At Gettysburg, young John Blinn lost his life, only twenty-three years of age. Again Terre Haute was cast into deep grief; it was only a small town then and the people had time to carry out the Bible command to "Rejoice with those that do rejoice and weep with those that weep."

THIS ARTICLE WAS TAKEN FROM THE "REMINISCENCES OF EARLY TERRE HAUTE " BY MISS MARGARET PRESTON.

Camp near Elk Run, Va.

Friend William,

I received your kind letter and now I am going to try to answer it if I can. We are in camp at what is called Elk-Ville or Elk-Run, Va. There is but one brigade here with us, there were two at first but they moved day before yesterday where they went I know not, but in all there is one division of the 2nd. Army Corps here and it ~~is~~ the 3rd. division and it is divided off into regiments and brigades, and they are stationed on different roads in order to keep the calvary from making raids in our rear on Warrenton Junction.

I see that you speak about the battle of Gettysburg as to it being of more importance to us than Antietam. I do not think it was for the reason that we did not attack them and drive them but as to attacking them we did the first day and they whipped us bad, but that night our men fell back to a better position so the next day the rebels attacked us on our ground and were repulsed them every time, but if we had attached them on their ground, they would have whipped us sure for sure. They drove our men the first day. Fight was ^{on} high ground like that ~~at~~ ^{at} Fredricksburg and the reason I know that they would have whipped us and had a good position was from the way they acted every time they would make an attempt to break our lines and get repulsed they would fall back some distance in order to draw us out and then ~~if~~ ^{if} they got us out they intended to fall back to their ~~at~~ ^{all} picked ground, but we tried to do was to hold our lines.

There was another way I knew that they had picked ground to fight on was after they commenced to retreat their infantry and all ~~of~~ ^{of} the artillery fell back on high ground

just on the other side of Gettysburg , but Gen. Meade stated in the papers that the rebels had to fight him on his own ground. but there is one thing sure if we had attacked the rebels and had whipped them on their own ground as bad as we did them on ours we would have got more prisoners of them than we did ; so you can see that it was Gen. Meade's intention to attack them or follow them up there with his main body of the Army or he would have done it and another thing if he had the rebels would have drawn up their men as if they were going to fight on that ground and then we would have had to lay there perhaps two days longer to get things ready to make another fight and By that time they would have got their head clear and so it was better the way it was , and not only that they had been whipping us every fight until ~~a~~ that and you can see for yourself that it was better to let them come to us than for us to go to them at this time.

William you want to know if I see Nat Eddy . You say that belongs to Stewart old Calvary(I know not) William how does the conscription act go on there now.Nothing more at present but I remain your friend ever more.

George A. Graff

William I dont believe I told you in my other letter that I saw Doctor Read at Williams Port M.D. I did and asked him about John The doctor said that Johnny was in the Army down in Ky.

Camped south of Raperhannock river. Va

Friend William,

I expect you have begun to think that I have given up writing to you any more. I would have written long ago but I had a stamp. I will try to commence a letter to you if I dont manage to finish it for the last two or three days I have that diarrhea and it has turned into the fever and I just feel bad and well enough to try and write a few lines or do something to pass away time.

William I would like to have got to stay at New York for about two or three weeks more and I think I would have seen my fun out, but the way it was I did not , but perhaps I will get back there again If I do , I want ~~to~~ see my fun out. If I had stayed there three more days I would have seen one of the loveliest times ever I saw in my life. I do believe for the reason I found out some young ladies in Williamsburg that I use to know at Terre Haute I would tell you their name but you would not know them anyway . Some way I had and saw all my fun in the last three days.

I would tell you more about New York but it wont do to tell you all in one or two letters for the reason I ^{would} write more but I want to say a few words about our march from Culpepper C.H. to Centerville. I will now try to write you as near as possible about our retreat from Robertson run to Centerville. I will commence back at Saturday Oct 9th 1863. at which I was on picket . We got orders or at least the officers did to draw in the pickets of which we did not understand at first until we went to where the brigade was. Then we found out that the Jonothers were on the move to and trying to out flank us the same night we evacuated our position at or near Culpwpper C .H. and fell back to what is called Bealton Station four or five miles the other side of the Raperhannock. We stayed there until about noon on the

11th of Oct. at which time we marched back across the river and formed into line of battle ~~and~~ advanced three or four miles but not getting any fight out of the enemy or finding him in any force we recross the river the third or fourth time and marched for Centerville which was the 12th. The night of the 12th we were surrounded although we went to bed about ten or eleven o'clock in the night and then had to get up at three again in the morning and march on and all at once we came to a halt long enough to get breakfast but did not know or understand such movements till the first thing boom, boom. then we knew that the Jonothens were trying to get our wagon train, Our calvary, was fighting like the very devil just in front of us, so our regiment was deployed out as skirmishers in order to support the calvary if the Jonothens should advance in fore but they did not come so we rally and ~~formed~~ ^{formed} the regiment and fell back about half mile we did so twice and both times had to wade a stream about knee deep We were the rear guard of the infantry on that road but at last we got back to within about three or four miles of Bealington Station at which place the rebels and our men were having it up and down with cannon. so we marched ^{men} up within about a mile and half of Bealington Station and formed into lines of battle behind the R.R. waiting for Jonothon our men placed a battery in position and the rebels tried to silence it, but they could not do it from that place they tried another which was so close that we could hear the rebel officer give the commands to ^{load} ~~load~~ and fire away every time although the rebels shot several shots at our natter but ours got range of theirs at last and knocked one of theirs pieces end over end at that the rebels stopped but while the firing was going on we could hear our shots tearing the trees down at a fearful rate at one time the Capt of our battery made a tolerable good shot which made the trees fall and he hollered take that over there. I thought

I had seen men take things cool but I never saw men take it cooler than they did theirs for it seemed as if they did not care at all just so that they kept the rebels from out flanking us although that was twice we had been cut off and then we were surrounded on all sides except one and that was where our advance had cut their way through and in so doing they took some cannon and several hundred prisoners. I thought that I had been in tight places but that was what I call running tight and then we did not get the chance of firing a shot but was just on the point of doing it once or twice at this time the rebels were about six or eight miles deep in front and their officers urging them on and telling them that there was nothing there but a wagon train and guards and saying now boys give the yell and then charge and all is ours there was but one yell and another said I know better for I saw twenty thousand men pass there but they did not come and as soon as dark we crept out of that as easy as possible through mud and water to our hips to Centerville next morning. After three or four hours sleep we were drawn up into line of battle for the rebels but they did not come in any force only to skirmish a little which they did all day till night when the rebels were gone. Then our regiment with the 8th Ohio had to wade *Broad Run* which reached nearly to our cartridge boxes. After advancing about one mile we came back. The morning we marched for Warrenton stayed there two or three weeks and then marched to this place which suits me very well for the present. I understand since Lieut. Prater has come back that C.R. Carr one of my old school mates is bossing a big job on some of the streets in Terre Haute.

As I have written a longer letter than I intended to I will stop for this time now more at present

George A. Graff

14th regt. Ind Vols.

Company F.

Via Wash. D.C.

U.S. History

Civil War

DO NOT CIRCULATE

Tullahoma Tenn.

Sept. 24th 1864

INDIANA ROOM
PAMPHLET FILE

Mr. William Harris

Atlanta Georgia

My Respected friend

I promised last winter when you called so frequently at my house at Lynchburg to write to you. I have not until recently known precisely where to address you. I saw Col. Colgrove as he went home and learned you were Brigade Wagon Master. I can say to you that I am all right for Lincoln and Johnson the true friends of our country. I am well and doing well. I am clerk in the quarter masters Department at Tullahoma at a salary of \$100 a month and rations. I have beenwearing the Union blue about four months. My mother whom you esteemed so highly is well and often speaks of you. In fact you have many strong friends in this country. My young wife whom you saw on your last visit at my house is well and sends her respects.

I have been postage master here and traveled over a great deal of your old territory.

I cannot now write at great length I was driven from home by the Bush Whackers last spring. I have since helped hunt them up and was on the raid that killed Bill Navis Bill Green and Tom Brown. Tom Brown you will remember was the principal scoundrel in the capture of Lieut Porter and his fellow sufferers.

Since writing the above I have shipped to your Corps all the blankets and great coats left here last spring belonging to the 20th old 12th Corps. The clothing is for the 32d Wisconsin and 123d New York volunteers. It goes forward in the case of Lt. A. D. Crawford who is here to day. You will do one an especial favor by giving my kindest regards to Gen. Slocum if you have the

opportunity. He will remember me well if you remind him of me. Also to Col. Ketchum 150th N. Y. and especially to Capt. J. C. Williams the provost Marshal here last winter.

I will the first opportunity write at greater length. In the mean time write me a full history of your hardships and trials since I saw you. Give my kindest regards to all the boys with whom I am acquainted and accept to yourself the lasting friendship of

George W. Davidson

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Head Quarters Dep't. of the Cumberland.
Chatenuga Jan. 6, 1864.
1864

General Order
No. 6

It having been reported to these Head Quarters that between seven and eight o'clock on the evening of the 23rd --within one and one-half miles of the village of Mulberry, Lincoln Co. Tennessee, a wagon which had become detached from a forageing train belonging to the United States was attacked by Gurillas and the officer in command of the forageing party 1st Lieut. Porter Co "A" 27th Ind. vols. The teamster wagon master and two other soldiers who had been sent ahead to load the train the latter four unarmed were captured. They were immediately mounted and hurried off, the Gurillas avoiding the roads until their party was halted, about one o'clock in the morning on the bank of Elk River, where the Rebels stated they were going into camp for the night. The hands of the prisoners were then tied behind them and they were robbed of everything of value about their persons. They were next drawn up in a line about five paces in front of their captors and one of the latter who acted as leader commanded "Ready" and the whole party immediately fired upon them.

One of the prisoners was shot through the head and killed instantly and three were wounded. Lt. Porter was not hit. He immediately ran, was followed and fired upon three times by one of the party and finding that he was about to be overtaken threw himself over a precipice into the river and succeeded in getting his hands loose--swam to the opposite side and although pursued to that side and several times fired upon, he succeeded after extraordinary exertions and great exposure in reaching a house whence he was taken to Tullahoma where he now lies in a critical situation.

The others after being shot were immediately thrown into the river, thus the murders of three men viz. Newell E. Orcutt 9th Independent Bat. Ohio, Vol. Art.; George W. Jacobs, Co. "D" 22nd Wis. Vol. and John W. Drought, Co. "H" 22nd Wis. Vol. was accomplished by shooting and drowning. The fourth, James W. Foley 9th Independent Baty. Ohio, Vol. Art. is now lying in Hospital having escaped by getting his hands free.

For these atrocious and cold blooded murders equaling in savage ferocity any ever committed by the most barbarous tribes on the continent, committed by Rebel citizens of Tennessee. It is ordered that the property of all other Rebel citizens living within a circuit of ten miles of the place where these men were captured be assessed each in his own proportion according to his wealth to make up the sum of thirty thousand dollars to be divided among the families who were dependent upon the murdered men for support as follows-- Ten thousand dollars to be paid to the widow of John W. Drought of No. Cape Racine Co., Wis. for the support of herself and two children. Ten thousand dollars to be paid the widow of George W. Jacobs of Delaware Walworth Co., Wis. for the support of herself and one child. Ten thousand dollars to be divided between the aged mother and sister of Newell E. Orcutt of Burson Granger Co., Ohio. Should the persons assessed fail within one week after notice shall have been served upon them to pay in the amount of their tax in money sufficient of their personal property shall be seized and sold at Public Auction to make up the amount.

Major General H.W.Slocum, U.S. Vols. Comdy, 12th Army Corps is charged with the execution of this order.

The men who committed these murders if caught will be summarilly executed and any persons executing them will receive protection of the Army, and all persons who are suspected of having harbored these Gurillas or having aided or abetted them will be arrested and tried by a Military Commission.

By command of Major General Thomas
(sgd) Wm. D. Whipple
A.A.G.

Head Quarters 12th Corps.
Tullahoma Tenn.
Jan. 9, 1864.

Official Copy

C.F. Morse.
Lt. Col., A.A.A.G.

Bridgeport, Alabama May 27.1864

Dear Parents

Today I find myself actually away down South in Alabama. We left Nashville, Wednesday morning early on the Nashville and Chattanooga R.R. for our present camp. I suppose you remember seeing Gen. Thomas's order, ordering all troops from Nashville to foot it, but we waived the rule and came on loaded cars. We passed through the battle ground of Murfreesburo during the forenoon, it is now strongly fortified, much stronger than before the battle. In the afternoon we passed through Tullahoma but scarcely any trace of the 27th remains. Toward evening we entered the Mountains then we saw wild country. It took two engines to shove us up the grade of the tunnel. This I believe the longest tunnel I ever went through. We arrived at Stevenson, Ala., at dark and went to the Soldier Home and eat a tolerable soldier supper.

Stevenson is the Junction of the Memphis R.R. and the N. & C. R.R. and a real stirring place it is.

After we had secured seats on the cars, the Captain commanded us to step on the other train but those of us on the three last cars did not hear the command and the train went off without us. We found by inquiring that there would be a train at two o'clock. we wanted the same train that Co H of our Regiment and reached this place about three o'clock, when we came here we looked for our Company but could not find it, the reason was, they had gone to the Quarters of Captain Milton Osborn's artillery.

Bridgeport is a town of four houses and depot. But it is a full grown military town. I have no idea of how many troops are camped here but there are dufficient to hold it against any force that may be brought to bear against it. We have no camp guard and as the Tennessee River is near we promise ourselves a great deal of of sport fishing and swimming.

The boy I bunk with is now off fishing. I would have gone but I thought it my duty to write. I wish you would send me two or three of the largest hooks and a ten cent line. Thad has them I guess. Some soldiers have made as much as \$5.00 a day fishing. A Russian Col. commands this place. I have never heard his name but I am told that it is so outlandish that no man can remember it. I sleep by an old soldier by the name of Steele. you will see his name in the Co. Record.

It is so far from any house that no soldiers that I have conversed with has been to any house. If I knew about the place I would write more but I believe I have written all that is of any interest. Remember me to all enquiring friends,

Yours with much love

Ransom

P.S. If you find my pocket map of the U.S. Pleace send it, it is very old and bound with morocco.

Address Co F 133Ind Bridgeport, Ala.
Care of Capt R.E. Smith

Bridgeport Hotel. June 5th 1864

Dear Parents

Sabbath Morning I received Pa's and Lucy's letters. I was very sorry to hear of Mr. Weaver's death if he had been a wicked man it would have been nothing to have wondered at but for a man whose Christian principles were never criticized or questioned to die such a violent death is something marvelous.

Yesterday was the glorious 4th. We commenced it with the usual breakfast of burnt rice, saltpetre cured meat and sour soft bread. At six our Regt was formed and marched about 1 1/2 miles where after review we came back and the beans were put on the fire; Burns and myself, with another companion in arms, started on a three miles tramp after berries, at noon we found ourselves with half gallon of berries each. We went to the foot of the mountain and found some splendid water. On the way back we eat a dinner of fried salt meat, hot bread composed of flour, and water, poorly mixed, a few onions, and mean coffee. This we eat in the only habitable room of the house which formerly had been the kitchen and now could not shed the rain. The owner informed us that he owned 160 acres up the river, but now he is engaged in helping his wife eke out a miserable living which they make by washing for U.S.'s boys.

We arrived in camp about the middle of the afternoon, before I got to my tent, I was very glad to receive the information that a package had come for me in a box sent to Capt. Smith. I found the beef, dried fruit, etc. etc, in excellent condition. I inquired into the matter and as there was an understanding only between the Capt and myself; the 1st Lieut supposed it was the property of the Capt. The Capt being away at Chattanooga the Lieut took possession of the three stone jars. I cannot possibly imagine what induced you to send me white cotton stockings. The Lieut resigned the jars to me, and took some of the jam to the hospital but the Dr. pronounced it unsafe as it had fomented I will scald it over this evening. I am very thankful to you for what you sent me. Our Dr. gets a great many sanitary stores so that the boys in the hospital are well supplied.

Among some Mothers Magazines the other day at his tent I saw some with your names on. I have never heard anything from the box. I am at present out of the ----- but have no particular need of it.

The Mr. Graham who is in our Co. claims acquaintance with Lucy.

Write soon.

Remember me to all inquiring friends Yours with love
from

R.E. Hawley

Bridgeport, Ala June 12, 1864

Dear Ma

Once more through the mercies of a kind Providence, I have strength, and mind given to write you. Since I penned the last letter I have passed through a very severe sickness. My Co. gave me up and my officer just on the verge of telegraphing to you, when they concluded they would wait till morning, in the morning I was better. Tuesday my fever left me and I have been getting along first rate since. I am now sitting in bed with a barrel placed by the side on which I lean and write. This morning I was much pleased to receive Lucy's letter and your note I thank her very much for the nice needle book it is just the thing I needed.

Our Co performed the last sad duties for one of its members yesterday. His name was Thomas. He died of the measles. He seemed to know a week before he died that he could not live and prepared himself for the change. This is the 1st death in the Regt. Is the floor laid for the porch? I wish I had had my room finished when I was home.

This morning Henry Stevenson sent me a nice can of peaches I tell you now I relished them. Yesterday a boy that we left at Nashville came up with some lemons, of course I got a share and relished it with a vengeance. The boys are very kind to me here since I have been taken. The Hall boys Camp Clearwaters Graham & Lt Beck especially have been attentive. The boys have a great deal of duty to do, every other day scarcely excuses them.

I have not seen Mr Blinn to know him, and he has not made himself known to me.

The Christian Commission has a large Chapel tent for preaching. well seated and generally well filled. In it there is a soldiers writing desk. A soldier can go in write a letter, and if he has no money or stamps, get a stamp for nothing. I went to church twice, the last time I was so weak that I had to rest coming back. I received great benefit by going. During this illness God has come into my heart, and I feel the blessed assurance that I have again received the unction from above that I am Christs and Christs is mine. We have a-----Chaplin his name is Allan. He is from Rockville.

Tell Lucy she can consider this an to her letter. I meant when I was writing about the Christian Comm to have told you that they distribute papers free, and that they have a large library of well selected books which they let soldiers have to read and return. Tell Kate & Mc be patient and they shall have a letter sometime. Much obliged to Jake for his present & advice.

I know you are very busy and I dislike to trouble you but now that I am getting well coarse camp fare dont relish well and I would like a few extras. If you think a cold boiled ham would not spoil I would relish it. I dont care for much besides it and butter can up plenty of butter. A box weighing 25 lbs would cost about \$2.50 per Adams Ex. If you have not time or consider it impracticable don't send it but all the meat we get is mess pork & beef and that is tough to a convalescent.

Remember me to all inquiring friends
and dont forget

Ransom

Bridgeport, Alabama June 27th

Dear Parents

This morning I was glad to receive a letter from Pa containing \$1.00 and the important news that a box of "provision" was on the way. I went over to the express office to see how the sanitary stores were directed but found only my small box. There is no sanitary agency here like every other place where my lot was cast in the Army. I was not long in opening my box you may be assured and as each dainty was produced the quality was tested by the taste and the praises which each particular eatable elicited was worthy of being said by greater epicureans than chum and myself.

I invited the Rev. Mr Withston Jones, an agent of the Christian Commission to dine with me and although he had a mile to walk, he elevated his umbrella and came. I have heard him preach twice and while I was so sick he came to visit me. I think he is an excellent man, he is certainly a hard working man, and is doing a great deal of good.

Everything was in fine condition and we relished them highly as my stomach is strong now. I will make that gruel for the sick boys, we have none in the hospital out of our company. I have some friends there.

If it is not too much trouble to ask I wish you would have Mrs Montgomery make me a hickory shirt, you can put it and whatever else you want to in a box that the Manhattan boys will have sent them. I did want a little molasses but now I have so many other good things I will not complain.

I(will) expect to have pies during blackberry season. This evening will have some dried apple pies at a very small cost. I have become so strong that I can walk a mile, with two or three rests. If the Manhattan box is closed when it comes to Putnemville, dont say a word.

I will like it better if you let the room alone until I come home.

I am very thankful to you for your trouble and ask you to thank all who sent me anything.

Remember me to all enquiring friends , and dont forget

"Bud"

1864
Bloomington Nov 19th 1864.

My Dear Mother

I believe I have written no letter to you since Pa was here. The provision was very welcome although I was not starving. Those were the first turnips I ever eat that I liked. I wrote a letter last Friday had no opportunity to send it. We are enjoying a precious revival in the church a few have united with the church more are asking. What shall I do to be saved. Bro Little is with us and preaches excellent sermons. I am praying for my poor fellow students who are very careless and wicked. Pray for us that we may be more abundantly blessed. Mr Cambell has returned on a 30 days furlough. Prof Kirkwood introduced me to him and he afterwards sent an earnest invitation to me to come and see him. He seems to take a great interest in Henry. I more interested in the study of Surveying than any study I have ever studied. I think I should like to go and help in some capacity in the survey of route for the Pacific R.R., but do not see the way open.

I have procured the Greek that my class are studying at Crawfordsville, also the Mathematics and am preparing for examination there.

If you send me anything next week please send me enough mutton tallow to grease my lips as I am threatened with sore lips again.

No more at present,

Yours with love,

Ransom

Louisville Feby 24, 1862

My dear Bro Hawley

The letter requesting Mrs Sadd to acknowledge your last boxas, to you, was found in the bottom of a box some days after it was open. As Mrs. Sadd is at home now, unwell, I send this to you. The boxes, & the sack, last sent, were all received safely & in good order & are being used, I trust with great benefit to the soldiers. Goods of a similar kind, are now coming in, from different quarters in large supplies, think I ought to say, we have no need of any more clothing of any kind, - not even bed clothing - or pillows. Canned fruit, & Jellies are plenty at present. They may yet need more of some things, but the hospital farm is now accumulated, so that it can be applied to obtain many things here. There is no suffering for the want of things now, in Hospital No 3. & I think not in any other hospital. I shall know more about the other hospital in a few days, & will write to you if I think it proper.

Health is improving, - Not as many deaths as some time since. - Not as many coming in now from the camps south, - They have gone farther south. The field for my colours is now ~~not~~ ^{very} important & interesting. - but more & more so, as I become acquainted & as the sick gather confidence in me, and send for me to see them. Yesterday I collected as many convalescents as I could in one ward, & opened a Bible class. We all read, & I asked a few questions & then made some applications & closed with prayer. In another ward, I briefly expounded the first Psalm, & closed with prayer. I frequently pray at their bed sides by the request. One poor fellow, very low, some deranged, has his wife, his mother & her mother, come to see him today, all, I fear, without any support from religion. Last night I labored with him (the soldier) & his wife. His wife seemed more disposed to repent than her husband. - Exciting scenes come before me every day. - Pray for me that I may be faithful. A regiment committee here to-day from W. Virginia, going on west, - 150 left here sick.

I hope Mrs Sadd will be well well enough to come back, but I fear. - I have been unwell some, but feel well to day. I will send the notice, I put into the L. Journal of the receipt of your boxes.

Express the warmest thanks, to yr Society, from the friends here - the sick Soldiers especially.

Love to your dear family & others

Jos M Sadd

P.S. When about finishing this, I went into our receiving room, I found another box, & a bag from yr. Society. Some things seem to have been sent direct from Martha Sellers. The bread & chickens were exactly suited to our wants, & so the other things. More thanks, if possible.

Two loads of sick come in to night.

Putnamville, Ind. June 17. 1864

Dear Ransom

We received intelligence on Monday of your sickness - two letters from the Surgeon dated the 4 & 6 & one from Mr Graham on the 5th. We also received yours yesterday written on the 12th.

We were sorry to hear of your sickness and of your dangerous sickness. We are thankful for the kind attentions you received & especially for God's mercy & Providence. I trust you have received Lucy's letter of the 13th. On the 15th the day before we received yours of the 12th we put up one barrel containing potatoes dried apples, peaches, beans, sage, green gooseberries onions &c and directed the box & barrel to your place care of Capt Smith. We now forward to you a small box of good things - ham, butter, paper, envelopes 'tc 'tc We pay the expressage & hope you will receive them. We doubted wether the ham would keep boiled; & hence leave that for you or your friends to do. Those sent on the 13th were intended for the sick of your company and other sick persons at Capt Smith's discretion. They were sent by citizens of this township.

I expect to write this afternoon and send you a dollar.

Your Father

Dear Son

If you can obtain wood to boil this piece of ham boil it 4 hours I send a little meal for gruel you have butter and nutmeg to make it relish Have your saucepan or kettle particularly clean and the water boiling and mix meal with water and pour it in and boil (meal if too thick put in water salt sugar nutmeg and) it sometime if not thick enough put in more wet meal if too thick put in water salt sugar nutmeg and butter to your taste in haste

Ma with much love

write

Ind. history. Civil war. Letters, etc.

PAMPHLET FILE

INDIANA ROOM

CIVIL WAR LETTERS & OTHERS

by

RANSOM E. HAWLEY

**REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE**

Dear Parents and Sister:

Born July 8, 1844
(17 years old) - 17

The war excitement has by no means abated yet the second volunteer company from this town left this morning. It is the third from this county. On Saturday the ladies of the city met at McCellands Hall to make tents, shirts etc. for the soldiers. They worked till late Sat. night and all day Sunday. etc. etc.

There were 40 students at prayers this A.M. about 20 attend recitations, about 40 have gone, and about 20 will go this week. etc. etc.

And now I want to go. and is it strange when the flag of our country has been torn down and a traitors flag planted instead? When nearly every student has gone to the war, or is going there or going home, when but 4 or 5 go to recitation, and such tremendous excitement is going on constantly, when the Nations Capitol is threatened with distruction, is it strange that a boy whose Grandfathers both did their countries service,

Is it Strange that he when his friends have nearly all gone or are going, would not want to go too, no I think not. And Now
Can't I go? Can't I go?

I want to go for several reasons:

1. I think I am needed
2. I think it is my duty to go
3. I can't study with any thing, and might as well go or go home
4. My country calls and I must obey.

The company I wish to go with is M.J. Butlers, it is almost full but still they have need of all they can get.

Olease write immediately say tomorrow or may be it will be to late.

Your affectionate Son
Ransom.

Perhaps you will say I am too young to go yet but I saw several in the company this morning smaller (than) and younger than I am. If I am small I can fight, and I have just as much Patriotism in me as any full grown man

Yours affectionately
Ransom E. Hawley

It is not certain when the company will start, not before the last of the week I guess though.

I paid Pr of. Hovey \$5.00 and owe him one dollar yet, I have one dime left."

"Ransom."

This is a copy of my husband's letter to his parents begging their permission to go to fight for our flag. He went and was wounded, He went again for certain length of time and the third time he went.

That was the Spirit that saved our country.

(Mrs Ransom E.)

Very sincerely
Minnie P. Hawley.

Wabash College Feb 15th 1862

Dear Parents

I was glad to receive Pa's letter last evening. I received letter from Lina Tuesday and one from Lusy and Henry this evening.

The battles at Forts Henry and Donaldson have created some excitement; Col Lew Wallace is on command of Fort Henry, and is promised the command of the advance on Nashville.

Prof Kidd will deliver his last lecture on elocution this evening but he will deliver a lecture on Physical education next Tuesday evening.

He is a great lover of gymnastics he gave us some lessons in free gymnastics after almost every lesson; He says Henry W Beecher is a great gymnast and would if he could do so privately take a spar with Heenan.

Prof Hadley is to be ordained elder next Sunday morning.

Yours with much love

Ransom

Crawfordsville Ind Feb24th 1862

Dear Parents

I received Pa's letter and was very glad to hear from you.

Saturday was the glorious 22nd, we all met in the chapel Prof Cambell made a few remarks, Cpt Caven of the 11th, made a short speech and some of the other students made speeches, we sang the Star Spangled Banner and adjourned. Cpt Caven is a member of the present Junior Class; we received the sad news last week of the death of one of his classmates Adams.

He was Adjutant of the 18th Ill we were all afraid that we would hear of his being killed in the late battle as every officer in that regiment was killed, so I was informed.

Putnamville is ahead of this town in sending hospital stores they sent one box to the wounded at Ft Donaldson and had to come to the students for money to pay expresage.

It is not of much use for me to send you my marks as the Faculty will at the end of the term.

I do want any money before next week and then it will be be for board.

Well I suppose that we have a President Dr Tuttle of New Jersey came Saturday examined the buildings preached yesterday morning and lectured; in the afternoon from these things and the reports that we have had, we think he is our President.

Do you know whether Sylvester Bishop was hurt in the battle?

Yours with much love

Ransom.

Dear Sister

I received your's and Pa's welcome letters Friday evening. I now believe I can truly say I have found my Savior. I begin to feel my hopes growing brighter. We have been through vacation accustomed to have a prayer meeting in my room at night but we have been obliged to discontinue untill last night we had a good meeting.

Our class have great reason to be thankful for what the Lord has done for us out of 15 six have experienced a change of heart and one has been a member of church for several years so that makes the majority on the Lord's side. The meetings have been discontinued since Friday evening (except Sabbath) but will be continued tomorrow evening. I was over at Mr. Smocks Saturday and the girls made me promise to tell you girls in every letter to come up at Commencement; and I will join in the entreaty do come won't you?

I saw in the Lafette Journal that at the battle Winchester Lieut Buskirck was killed. Were any of the boys of Putnam hurt. If you ever see or hear of "that Piece" of Fremont's body guard wandering around the "well" just remind him that I wrote him a letter about two months since and I have had no answer. In your next letter ~~can~~ Henry please state the fact to him that I am still at C. He must have forgotte it long ago. I suppose that Lucy is still well I haven't heard to the contrary for 2 months "anyhow" What is the P.O. adress of the boys of th 27th

Write soon.

Yours affectionately.

With much love to

Ransom

My dear Mother.

I suppose I should have written to you sooner but I have been putting it off untill now it is one week since I came. The train arrived here about quarter past eleven, and the town bore decided marks of having been illuminated to a small extent. On Friday night our society was brought to rather an abrupt close by the ringing of bells over Lee's reported surrender. An impromptu celebration was gotten up the "big gun" fired, the men yelled, the women screamed the boys hallowed, the bells rang, the boxes, and barrels, and chicken-coops, and toolchests burned; the whiskey, and beer flowed and C--ville was aroused. Of course some butternuts had to be thrashed, and some more free fighting had to be done before the scene closed. On Monday the people illuminated themselves in the daytime, and their houses at night. At night everybody went to town, to make a noise, and everybody made a noise, with hand bells, cowbells, dinner bells, tea table bells, and church bells, tin horns, and brass horns, were made noisy by boys, and men; and horns of whiskey made men and boys noisy, everybody looked happy and everybody felt happy. Speeches were made, songs were sung, and the excitement was kept up until the list of speakers were exhausted, from Sen Lane down to the would be lawyer. Everybody was illuminated and everybody's house. All together there was a good time. My clothes and everything else came all right. I tried to get a paper for you but failed. I have received a letter from Lucy and one from Mrs. List. I don't know why she wants to write me long letter all about her trials, and tribulations, when she knows that I cannot help her. No mention of a prosecution has been made to me by my prosecutors. Mitchell seemed yo have been well pleased with Put.

A club commenced operations today do you think I had better join.

I cannot buy any wood for cooking I think. Presbytery adjourned on Sunday night. Prof. Hovey is going to the General assembly so that our class will be excused from one study while I am at home.

Love to all.

Yours with love.

Ransom

Boarding in the club will probably cost \$2.00 per week.

Dear Parents

I received your very welcome letter and paper this eve. I thank Pa for the \$4.00 it came when I was needing it. I should have written last night but I thought I would get a letter to night, and I could answer two while answering one. You ask where I will go? I will go wherever I am needed and wherever I am commanded whether to guard prisoners, supplies, or bridges, or to fight. But I do not believe the three months troops will be placed in the advance in preference to well disciplined troops. The College company has fallen through, but my desire to avenge the blood of Putman Co. Boys has not fallen with it. There has been almost company recruited in town, but as I do not know any one who is in the company personally, I do not wish to go with them. Of course then my only chance of going is to go home and enlist which I would like better, provided I go in an unconditional manner. Whatever way I go I want to go with Jake McIlvain or some one who I know has good moral principles and in whom I can confide. In short, I will say, for I might as well now as any time, I don't care about going as a private, but I will go as a private before I don't go at all and I can get your consent.

I can say now I feel more and more determined to serve my Savior. Room mate and I took upon ourselves the vows of the church last Sabbath. We had a good prayer meeting this evening. I have not spoken to Prof Hadley about going, but of course he will oppose us as he would for any of the boys going. I thank Pa for those little books they were just the thing.

Yours with much love

Ransom

Please excuse mistakes as I am in a hurry to go to bed.

5 min. of 7 o'clock

State House Steps

Indianapolis July 28

Dear Parents, Sisters & all

We arrived here all safe this morning about 5:30 o'clock. at the depot we saw about 30 trophies of Secesh in the shape of some of Morgan's Guerrillas not very fierce looking gentry. I heard one of the guards say today they popped a prisoner over whenever he showed his head above the fence. He said there were about 2000 prisoners in the camp.

The "Guess" is we are going to Kaintuck to guard the ballot box. Our orders are not to leave the S.H. Yard without permission. That Governor Morton has ordered breakfast here in the yard. And he will send us to Camp Morton. We expect to leave today. Col Farrow is our Commander in Chief.

I suppose I am beginning to get acquainted a little. I will have no chance I suppose to go in Bridge Co. and I am not anxious to.

Should Jake and Monroe go through, I will try to get in with them. Before I finished the last sentence I was called to breakfast.

I am now sitting in the Supreme Court room. I shall mess with Henry Stevenson I suppose. Mr Stevenson says over half the Co. are married men. Well I had to quit again to be sworn in. "Its did now" I am in for "sartain:" I do not know what I will do with my clothes. I shall try to send them to Mr Stevenson or Mr Millholland.

Our Captain (Bob Smith) has named our Co. the Putnam Co Rangers. Good bye

Much love to all.

Ransom

P.S. I shall write soon as I have opportunity

R

P.S. No.2 I hardly suppose my account of the numbering of the "trophies" is correct.

R.E.H.

Camp in the field near, Greenville, Tenn.
Oct 21st 1863.

My Dear Mother

Thank God I was last night night once more permitted to hear your warning voice through a letter directing me still in the true path. I suppose before this time Lucy has rec'd the letter I wrote her at Cumberland Gap. I rec'd Lucy's letter at the Gap. Last night rec'd yours and Pa's. I was very glad to hear that you both are enjoying as good health as you are.

We arrived here after a five days march from the Gap. The first day we marched 25 miles passing through Taswell which has been a very prettytown but was burnt by Bragg, that night we marched until ten o'clock many of the boys fell out before we halted and did not catch up untill two, or three days. Next day we crossed the Clinch mountains & the Flint & Holston rivers, we made but 14 miles. Next day we passed through Morris-town and camped this side of the place. There we actually did hear the "Car" again.

We were the next day ordered to Bulls Gap expecting to find a few lousy Rebs to whip but not so, they had commenced falling back. Next day the engagement took place, but we had no share in it, we were ordered to hold a position in the rear. I suppose the papers call it the Blue Springs skirmish. Our loss was 6 killed, and 53 wounded. The rebel loss is not certainly known. The day after the engagement we marched over the battle field we saw one dead Reb still unburied, shot in the back like all cowards.

That night we marched near to our present camping ground. Next morning the Col awakened us, and told us to broil our meat as we positively had to leave at six o'clock. But the order was countermanded, and we went into camp. Well here we are near the home of Andy Johnson. Camped in sight of the Iron mountains of North Carolina line.

This is the very poorest part of East Tenn. There is scarcely nothing here to forage. I suppose you have the same idea that I had that nearly all the people here are loyal but the Secesh are nearly five to one. We are the Knoxville & Richmond R.R. I wish you would please send me the returns of the election. It is of no use to send papers to us as they will be thrown out.

Our camp church is still increasing in interest, and numbers. We know not when we will be ordered from here before long we suppose. Give my love to all inwiring friends, and keep a Benjamin's portion for yourselves.

May a kind Father protect us all, and bring us together again in peace is the prayer of

Ransom

Copy of a letter written to Miss Crawford by
Rev. Ransom Hawley a short time before his death

Miss Crawford:

Many thanks for your kindness in securing for me the loan of a book I have been seeking for twenty years. I have sent a review to Simpson Lockridge, he called in Comrade Ashton and they say my memory is correct. Orville Earl of Brazil and Benjamin Williams of Greencastle only five of us surviving out of the one hundred members of Co. A. 78th Indiana. There were three companies of our regiment in the fight. Johnson says a whole regiment. Col. Will Farrow commanded us and Toll Grooms was his Adjutant. Two companies were from Parke County. Captain Tighlman Howard (son of and namesake of one of the most illustrious and successful Democratical political office holders) was killed. Twenty of us were wounded.

Johnson rarely uses dates and does not enumerate casualties. He made us take the oath not to take arms again against the Confederates until we were paroled. Instead of sending in our names to Jeff Davis' Secretary of War, Randolph, Johnson carried the list with him and it was recovered after he was shot blind and captured, sometime late in July, 1864. He had an opportunity to send these parole papers to headquarters in Richmond, Va. because he sent his own muster roll by one of his Captains, S. P. Cunningham to Richmond, Va.

At that time Johnson was a General and had 1700 men. He had ordered a conscription of all men in Kentucky. He recovered, was released from the Louisville jail and returned to his beloved state of Texas, where he led an industrious life. When a young man he had training in war in Texas.

I volunteered to go on the sky line; that gave me a view of Johnson's force. A little squad on our right, then in front of us some 200 men and boys on foot armed with shotguns or anything they could pick up. He did not have enough cavalymen to intercept our men who escaped up the river and were picked up next day by a steamboat. Johnson and his surgeon were the only men who wore anything like uniforms.

The fight was on the first day of Sept. '62. Johnson left that night because he knew reinforcements were coming. His men were sick, he said some of them probably had lead poison from our Enfield rifles. Grigsby Farm, Nelson Co., Ky. bottom of 449th page.

Page. 117- Johnson's command did not reach our camp until 2 P.M. We had our dinner before our pickets opened fire. This picket post was on the Morganfield road. He says nothing about his dead and wounded. He says sixty of his men were sick. Tighlman Howard of Rockville was killed and twenty of our men were wounded. Three companies of our regiment. He says a whole regiment.

Miss Crawford;

Very sorry that Rheumatism has taken hold again. Have suffered from it since the winter of '63 & '64. There is no hope for either of us in this life. Hot, dry weather brings relief. There is no absolute healing balm. Many thanks for your kindness in securing for me the reading of a book I have made many efforts to secure during the past twenty years. It could not be found for sale in Louisville, Ky. That copy of the history of the 70th Ind. had the name of Chalmers Reed as a recruit, This fact was a surprise to Gertrude Williamson, his neice. Her grandfather, Rev. Isaac Reed named his two boys for eminent preachers. Whitfield was killed in battle. He was 1st Lieut. Co. Q., 27th Ind. You know I am not fond of the use of personal pronoun excessively. Memory is refreshing when I think of Co. K., 54th Ind. in the summer of 1861. The three months men who had fought in W. Vir. Co. Q., 27th Ind. had gone. they were home safe. There was nothing doing without consulting any one. I asked Col. Miller, Johnnie Miller's father, to come to Putnamville and organize a Home Guard Co. He came to the M.E. Church, the old frame building. It was crowded with men and boys. Col Miller was a fine man and would have made a great General if he had been blessed with health. He made a fine patriotic address and organized what afterwards became Co. K., 54th Ind. William Akin was disgruntled because those who had served in the first three months service were not honored. He took it out on me. I said nothing because innocence covered me. I made no suggestions as to officers. As to the present, I am still shut in more by way of precaution. I was permitted to fill my appointment at the Fairbanks Home for Aged Women on the Third Sabbath; and last Sabbath went in the A.M. to the First United Brethern Church. Have many friends there. Wrote four pages of an answer to Rupert Hughes' slanders on Washington for the Star; same to our Soldier paper, The National Tribune. If you have a copy of "Washington: a Christian" by W.J. Johnson, push its circulation. If you do not have a copy please order one.

Sincerely yours,
R.E. Hawley

Miss Crawford;

Many thanks for your kindness in securing for me a loan of a book I have been seeking for 20 years. I have sent a review to Simpson Lockridge. He called in Comrade Ashton and they say my memory is correct. Orville Earl of Brazil and Benjamin Williams of Greencastle only five of us surviving out of the 100 members of Co. A., 78th Ind. There were three companies of our Reg't. in the fight. Col. Will Farrow commanded us and Toll Grooms was his Adjutant. Two companies were from Parke Co. Captain Tighlman Howard, son of and namesake of one of the most illustrious and successful Democratic political office holders, was killed and twenty of us were wounded. Johnson rarely uses dates and does not enumerate casualties. He made us take the oath not to take arms again against the Confederates until men were paroled. Instead of sending in our names to Jeff Davis's Sec'y. of War Randolph Johnson carried the list with him and it was recovered after he was shot blind and captured sometime late in July, 1864. He had an opportunity to send these parole papers to Head Quarters in Richmond, Va. because he sent his own muster roll by one of his Captains, S.P. Cunningham to Richmond, Va.. At that time, Johnson was a General and had 1700 men. He had ordered a conscription of all men in Kentucky. He recovered and was released from the Louisville jail and returned to his beloved State of Texas where he led an industrious life. When a young man he had training in war in Texas. I volunteered to go on the skirmish line and that gave me a view of Johnson's force. A little squad of Cavalry on our right, then in front of us some 700 men and boys on foot armed with shot guns or anything they could pick up. He did not have enough Cavalry men to intercept our men who escaped up the river and were picked up the next day by a steamboat. Johnson and his surgeon were the only men who wore anything like uniforms. The fight was on the 1st day of Sept., 1862. Johnson left that night because he knew reinforcements were coming. His men were sick he said. Some of them probably had lead poisoning from our Enfield rifles.

R.E.Hawley

From the Book entitled "The Partisan Rangers"

(This name given by Jeff Davis is more war like them guerillas) p.117. Book published in Louisville, Ky. in 1904. Out of print, very scarce. I have tried for twenty years to get a copy. Adam Johnson uses no dates. Those of us who were at Uniontown Sept.1,1862 cannot forget. He says he reached there at 10 o'clock in the A.M. Dinner time that day and for two hours after men and boys on foot and in shakely wagons streamed past our camp on the Morganfield Road. At two o'clock our pickets fired. Immediately we fell in line. We had 3 companies. Johnson says we had a regiment and says we were Ind. Home Guards. Co.A 78th Ind.was commanded by Rob't.E.Smith who had seen one years service as 1st.Lieut.of the Asbury Guards 16th Ind. This was true also of our Sergeants ,Henry Stevenson,Tyler,Ive Donahue & the rest except Boston. Co A was from Putnam Co.and two Cos.were from Parke.We gave a good sharp fight.Captain Tighlman Howard was killed. Twenty of us were wounded. Johnson says the whole force was captured. He did not count. Two strong squads escaped up above the town. They were picked up by the steamboat next day. He is very free with slanders against Col.William Farrow. He represents him as a coward and says he found him at his headquarters. I saw Col. Farrow on the battle ground. He was detailed from the 71st Ind. where he had done good service- he being the first field officer to enter Memphis and he gave the command to cut down the flag pole. The Greencastle boys caught the flag and held it until a short time ago. With Col. Farrow, Tolliver Grooms was detailed as his adjutant. Co.B,Capt. Hawn had been sent to some other point further down the river. The Co. from Brazil ,Capt. Sanders was in the battle of Richmond,Ky.Aug.31,1862.

Another Company from our Regiment the 78th Ind.was detailed to escort rebel prisoners who had been exchanged back to their command in Louisiana. Our duty was to punish because a Union man had been foully murdered. Adam Johnson's only commission at that time,if he and his Lieut.Martin had any,had been given them by bloody Forrest. He had not met John Morgan. He and his Surgeon wore some thing like a uniform. None of his men were uniformed and they were armed with shot guns and anything they could pick up. They themselves were picked up wherever he could get them. With four others from Co.A I was on the skirmish line. Saw the little handfull of Cavalry go galloping down the river; saw the 500 or more non de script infantry marching at us two lines deep. Johnson left that night. He says he had a number of men sick. Possibly some of them had lead poisoning from our Enfield rifles. The citizens told us next day Johnson hauled his dead and wounded away by wagon loads. He says nothing about his casualties. There was only one Union family in Uniontown and that was a German family. Johnson's Infantry stretched from the Morganfield Road (running north to the Ohio River Road running east). Frequently Johnson tells of his great gallantry at Ft.Donaldson a few weeks before. Like the Texas Ranger who rested the butt of his gun (Shot) on my cot said, "We whipped your men but did not^{to} your Fort." Why? Joe Southard was one of the men who escaped up the river. James Johnson and Cheadle were in our ranks. Both went to Congress. The founder of the State Hospital, Dr.Long,was a member of the 78th Ind.Aug.1863. I saw James Johnson lead out of Camp Morton a company of rebel prisoners and muster them into the Union Army. No one ever saw a Union prisoner take the oath of allegiance to the Rebel Government.

Grigsby Farm, Nelson Co. Ky.

Bottom of 449th page.

Page 117. Johnson's command did not reach our Camp until 2 P.M. We had our dinner before our Pickets opened fire. This Picket Post was on the Morganfield Road. He says nothing about his dead and wounded. He says 60 of his men were sick. Capt. Tighlman Howard of Rockville was killed and twenty of our men were wounded. Three Companies of our Regiment. He says a whole Regiment.

Whereas: The true monument for Indiana to build to our Noble Dead is a Soldiera and Sailors Orphans Home worthy of the name.

Resolved: We demand of the next General Assembly of our State a complete seperation of the Asylum for Feeble Minded Children from the Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home.

Resolved: 2nd.-- We demand such changes in the government of the Orphans Home as will enable its officers to receive the orphan children of any Union Soldier, residing in the State at the time of his death, whether whether he served in an Indiana Regiment or not. Also the destitute orphan children of Indiana soldiers whose fathers died in any of the Territories or in any of the States which do not make suitable provision for such orphans shall be brought to the home at the expense of the State and cared for in the same manner as they would be if their fathers had died in the State.

Resolved: 3rd.--We will not support, and we will use all honorable means in our power to defeat every candidate for the Legislature who refuses to pledge his influence and vote for these measures.

Resolved: 4th.--An agent from the Home shall be required to gather from the streets of our cities and the county Poor Asylums such orphans of soldiers and sailors as may now be or are likely to be associated with Paupers.

Comrade Agnew; Please read and correct and return. I don't want to die until this disgrace is wiped out, and that Home amounts to something. If we leave the Preamble in its present shape we must fight the Indianapolis boys who want to build a stone monument. Hope your flood did not wash your boys out of your home. I hope to meet you at the Encampment.

Yours in F.C.& L.

R.E.Hawley.

LETT, JOHN WESLEY

Sept. 7th, 1862.
Louisville, Ky.

Dear Mother,

It is with pleasure that I write you these few lines to let you know that I have not been well for some time but I feel better today. All the rest is well at present. We are in camp about one mile south of Louisville on a nice hill. There are about 6,000 now in camp. There was a regiment left here yesterday. They were expecting a fight. The rebels are now in thirteen miles of us. We are looking every day for them. We have not got our arms yet but we are looking for them every day.

Well mother, I went through Crothersville about an hour before day and did not get to see them. I am going to write to them as soon as I get time. If I can get a furlough I will go and see them. I would love to see you all. I am coming back whenever I can. Tell the children I have not forgotten them. Tell Sis she must be a good girl and when I come back I will bring her a nice present.

I will close. You must write often. Write and let me know if you got that money I sent you. I sent it by Mr. Canfield. I will send my picture as soon as I get well. Do not forget to write. Tell Sis to write and I will answer every letter. Nothing more but write soon.

John Wesley Lett to

Mrs. Frances Lett.

Miller

Ladies and Gentlemen happy am I this evening to express my gratitude to you all for bearing in mind your humble speaker, so much as to meet on this occasion to congratulate him before taking up his line of march and go hence perhaps to be with you no more forever. Should this doleful lamentation be allotted to me, I can say with great composure and firmness knowing that this step in life is my duty that I owe to my country. I meet it without any fear of guilt or remorse of conscience for, I am of the opinion that this should be the theme of all the true hearted and patriotic young men of this great and glorious Republic. I am well apprised of the fact that it is a very lamentable and gloomy scene to see all the young people leaving their quiet and peaceable neighborhoods and going to meet and to face the mouth of the bellowing cannon. But this should not be looked at. In the first place we should look and see after our government. First defend the flag of our country and then we can see after other inferior domestic arrangements. What would be the policy in letting the government be destroyed and at the same time knowing that if this bloody Rebellion should be carried out to the plants that have been drowned. All the property that is now held by the loyal men of the north would not be worth one cent. So come young men of the northern confederacy and Rally around the old flag staff that has borne the flag that has upheld and sustained this government for over 80 years. The beautiful Stars and Stripes that have but proud defiance to all the world that has been honored by all nations and respected out on the high seas. For those colors I intend to fight for and die if die at all in the battlefield. I shall die in all the

honors of my country. Oh that we had a few old Daniel Websters at this day and momentous age of the world, that could say that when I shall lift my eyes for the last time to behold the ^{Sun} Soul in the heavens may I not behold him shining on one dishonored fragment of a once glorious and perpetuated union. May I not behold him shining on the unhallowed Earth. Drenched with human blood but may I see him shining forth on one grand glorious perpetuated union.

Thomas F. Miller

Times in Camp are different from times at home. We have good clothing, we allowed 42 dollars worth of clothing a year over and above our wages, and 13 dollars a month. Our fare is not the best in the world but it is good enough when we are not marching. We have plenty beef, beans, rice, hominy, pork and bakers bread. We do fine when not on march. Tell David Lewis (?), if he wants to come to send me word and I can send him a pass that will bring him free of charge. It will pay him to come. I would not be out of the service for considerable, I like the business. It is a hard time on me when they have to march but we will not have to march long at a time and when we are in our camp we fare as well as I wish to at present. But I don't know how long good times will last. We think that we have plenty of good things to eat but I have seen the time that I would give considerable to had as much as I could eat. We get plenty but eating one kind of diet all the time we get tired of it. I am as stout as a bear and **hardy** as any person. I don't want to get anybody in nor out of the army but as for me I am content to stay where I am. Give my well wishes to all my friends, for I think that I shall have the opportunity of seeing all of you again. I want you to write to me as soon as you receive this. I have not had the scratch of a pen from Park yet.

T. F. Miller

Cairo Dec. 30th 1861

Mr. Benjamin Newton

Respected Sir--I now seat myself in order to drop you a few lines to let you know my whereabouts and my present condition. I am in camp McClernan at Cairo, Illinois. I came in the camp on Wednesday after I left your house and have been here up to present, but I did not take the place that I expected to fill. I found out after I arrived in Cairo that I could not fill anyones but my own and I volunteered under Captain Sprague of Company H. in the 29th Regiment of Illinois volunteers. I suppose that you would like to know how I like camp life but I have but little idea of what I think about it at present but will give you my opinion of military life at some other time. We have enough to eat, such as it is and plenty of good clothing, but we are under extremely strict order and confinning rules. We are not allowed to go out of Camp without a pass from headquarters and then it is to go after provisions. I was detailed last night to guard some Secesh prisoners, 20 in number and I was ordered to guard them all night and if they attempted to make their escape or show any resistance death was the penalty and you may conceive at once that it made me feel a little serious to be placed over men with a musket and them Rebels and drunk in the bargain. We are expecting everyday to have to go to Columbus to take possession of that place that is now in the hands of the Rebels. It is only 20 miles below here on the River on the Kentucky side and they are well prepared to meet us. They have about 35,000 men and we will have about 60,000 and when that fight comes about you may expect that something will be done. There will undoubtedly be several men have to die but they all appear to be

willing to go and risk it. The weather here is beautiful we have had no snow this winter and not much rain. I am now sitting in the sun in my shirt sleeves writing and the sun shines as warm apparently as in August. The Cavalry is all out now a drilling and the artillery drilling also and there is such a confusion that I cannot write. So I will close. I hope that I should hear from you all soon. I would like very much to see you all but I don't know that I shall see any of you soon. We can not get a furlow until next summer and maybe not then. Give my respects to all inquiring friends.

Yours

Thos. F. Miller

Direct your letters to T. F. Miller in care of Captain Sprague 27th Regiment of Illinois volunteers.

Cairo Jan. 8th 1862

Mr. Benjamin Newton

Sir--I seat myself this drizzly and gloomy evening to write once more to you before starting out to the field of battle. We are ordered to march from Cairo tomorrow morning at nine oclock and where to I don't know, but I think that we will go down the Mississippi though we may not. It is rumored in the camp that we will go to Bowling Green in Kentucky but it is all guess work. I am sure of one thing and that is we are going to go to fight at some point and it makes but little difference to me where I go. I enlisted at my country's call and I am willing to go forth to meet my fate, let it be whatever it may. The boys are all rejoicing and appear to be anxious to go. About 4 o'clock this evening the orders come from head quarters that we must be ready to march at nine oclock in the morning. It made some of the boys look very serious and in fact some of them taken very sick and departed themselves unable to march and will be excused from duty and left in camp. It will be ^ahard march on us for the black sticky mud is about knee deep and still raining so you may have an idea of the mud we will have to wade through. Down here in the land of Dixie we are ordered to prepare ourselves with five days rations and 80 rounds of cartridges and we have that all to carry in our cartridge boxes and haver sacks besides our knapsack containing one oil cloth and one blanket and gun and I am thinking that will be a pretty handsome load considering the mud and rain. As there has nothing occurred in camp worthy of relating since I wrote to you I will close for it is now two at night and a raining

and I was on guard last night and is a pretty hard matter for me to keep awake. I have to stand every Wednesday. We stand on guard two hours out of four. So we don't get to sleep but very little in 24 hours. And our orders are to let no person pass in daytime without a pass from headquarters nor let them pass after night with out the countersign and if any person attempts to break guard we are ordered to either bayonet or shoot them. I will close and when I return from the scout that I am going to start on in the morning I will give you the details of it.

Yours T. F. Miller

Whether on the scaffold high

Or in the armies ban

The fittest place for man to die

Is to die for man

Byron

Tell Parsons that I would have written to him but I have had nothing of importance to communicate to him and he would not like to be bored with some old news that did not contain any importance. Tell him when I come back from the land of cotton. I would like to have written to Scyrus but I have not got time now nor I have not had any time hardly to write for I have been drilling steady all the time and I can come in with the front ranks (in handling arms) the Captain says that I have learned and done well. Tell all the folks that should be so kind as to speak of me that I am all right and in good spirits and when the goal of peace is past and my country is once more at peace and liberty I will return to my own native land and live a retired

life with the noble hearted and patriotic union citizens of your common wealth. I hope that when I return back to Cairo that I will find some of your pen marks in the office for me. I want you to write what you done with your hogs and what you got for them and what you have done with my grey mare. Write all the news. I will be back in five days to Cairo if not killed nor wounded.

T. F. Miller

As I have not written anything of Linda and the children perhaps they think that I have entirely forgotten them but I have not yet forgotten them as I am a person that never forgets kindness. They will undoubtedly be the last of my recollection. I hope that I shall at some future time see you all. Though I don't think that I shall see any of you soon. I have written several letters home and received answers to them. The folks at home was very much surprised when they found out where I was and father wrote that he would be here to see me this week, but if he comes he will not get to see me. You must excuse bad writing for I am just now very near asleep.

Yours

Miller

Fort Henry Tennessee

Feb. 10th, 1862

Mr. Benjamin Newton

Sir

I now hail the fleeting moments of short duration of communicating to you the present news of the day. No doubt but you have heard of the storming of Fort Henry in Tennessee, and the great victory that the Union troops achieved there the move that made is as follows. On the first day of Feb. we got aboard of the Steamer Emerald at Cairo and started up the Ohio and went until we came to the mouth of the Tennessee River which was 90 miles from Cairo then we left the Ohio River and went up the Tennessee River 70 miles and landed at Pine Bluff in Henry County Tennessee within 3 miles of a Rebel camp ten thousand strong where we stayed two days and was ordered to open the Ball which was gladly received in camp. All things were got ready and the army all moved slowly and smoothly along the road in the direction of the enemys camp. The army consisting of about fifteen thousand in all and six gun boats, the infantry was divided into divisions and the 18, 29, 30, 31, was the front division. So I was in the 29th Regiment and was in front of the main army. The first division was to go around and come in on the farther side of the camp and cut off the enemies retreat and then the gun boats was to make the attack and shell them out and the infantry to give them _____ as they attempted to make their escape, but we had not advanced but a short distance till we heard the bellowing of the murderous cannon which denounced to

us that the attack was made we halted for a short time and then moved on as fast as possible and that was not very fast, for we had to guard the artillery, and the roads being very muddy and the artillery very heavy and teams rather light we was compelled to move very slow until a dispatch came that the boats had shelled them out and they were running and leaving their camp then we left the artillery and run for all that was out. It had rained all night before we started and the creeks and brooks were all ^{flushed} bushes and high but we paid no attention to them we ran through water waist deep, but it was all to no avail before we could get there they had all left their camp and gone and we did not get to fire a gun, but we had a good time, searching and pillfering their camp they left all that they had there is clothing enough here to do a thousand men a life time as to the number killed on the Rebel's side I could not say for they buried their dead as fast as they were killed. We have dug up 25 or 30 that was buried in the fort and it is supposed that they throwed a great many in the river. I did not see but four men killed in the fort that was not buried, but the blood and brains was scattered all over the fort. I am satisfied that there was a great many killed. Our loss was small the rebels did not kill more than five or six, but they throwed a ball into one of the port holes of our gun boats and bursted the boiler which scared them and some of them jumped over board and got drowned, taking the whole thing in consideration it was one of the completest victorys that has yet been achieved. There was about twenty miles above here another camp on the river at the railroad bridge on the road leading from

Columbus to Nashville that was strongly fortified and as soon as they heard of our storming Fort Henry they all abandoned and we went up there and burnt down the bridge and took considerable flour and other provisions. We are now camping in the Secesh Camp at Fort Henry, the weather is beautiful over head but quite muddy under foot. We are in the midst of the land of Seceshendom and our orders are very stringent and closed, and why should we mumble and complain when we are driving this rebellion to its final destination. Soon we may that freedom shall reign and the government be perpetuated forever. I hope ere long to see the beautiful "Stars and Stripes" that have been honored by all nations and respected out on the high seas to be hurled by the western Zephrs a moving in all its glory and bidding proud defiance to all the world. You must not be impatient at reading lengthy and uninteresting letters as this. Many has been the times that Frank's mind has been called back to muse on the favors and kindness and pleasures that I have met with around the fire side of my friend Benjamin. Give my well wishes to all enquiring friends.

Yours as Ever

T. F. Miller

Cairo Jan. 23rd 1862

Mr. Benjamin Newton

Sir I now seat myself in order to drop you a few lines to let you know that I am still on the land and back to Cairo again. When I wrote to you last I was going to start out in Kentucky to take Columbus but we did not do it but we started on the 9th of Jan. and was gone 12 days. We went within ten miles of a Rebels camp but we did not have to fight. We did not go to fight we went to keep the Rebels from reinforcing at Bowling Green which we did do, for the Rebels knew that our troops was going to attack Bowling Green and they was aiming to reinforce them and hold the fort but they heard that there was ten thousand of Uncle Sam's boys scouting in Kentucky with the intention of taking them in and and they stayed in their dens. We had a very hard time while we was marching. There was about ten thousand in all. We had plenty of mud. It was raining and snowing all the time we was out. We had to travel all day through the rain and snow and carry a load of about fifty pounds and have nothing to eat but some old fat bacon and hard crackers that is not positively fit for a dog to eat and not half enough at that. We drawed provision for ten days and was out 12 days. It was a hard sight to see hundreds of stout young men that was give out a sitting and lying along by the road side. Some of them a crying and weeping because they could not keep up with the train. Upon the whole it was the damdest time that I ever seen. But we are back to Cairo, but we will have to start in a few days again. There is now about 20,000 troops in Cairo and still coming in. There will

be another move in a few days, I think or at least it is rumored so in the camp. We made the Secesh Citizens of Kentucky think that we was a hard set to deal with. We would camp at night on their farms and burn fence rails for wood and take hay stacks for beds. We just ruined every farm we camped on. It was a hard sight for me to witness to see a man's property all destroyed and broken up, like we had to do it. We went to a large Saw and flouring mill and burned it to ashes. It was in 12 miles of Columbus and had been sawing and grinding for the Secesh at Columbus all fall and winter but it has ceased now. We taken 50 bushels of meal out of the mill before we fired it and let all the balance go. There was 500 bushels of wheat and several thousand feet of lumber in the mill that was burned. As I have a half sheet left. I will close my scribbling myself.

Yours truly

T. F. Miller

INDIANA ROOM

3 Civil War Letters, diaries
etc. List, Alphabet.
Miller, Thos. F.
In kind of

DO NOT CIRCULATE the Girls of Park County

Resolutions that should be adopted in favor of the benefit of this Government by the young ladies of Park County.

Resolved that we the young ladies of Park County will tender our services as clerks, mechanics and tillers of the soil to supply the places of our able-bodied young men in their store houses, work shops and on their farms, while they go to fight our country's battles for us and for our liberty.

Resolved that we will not only be our own clerks, mechanics, and husbandmen, but to those young men who cannot go because mother won't consent for me to go, we will guarantee our services unto those young men to coax Ma for everyone of them.

Resolved that we will now and forever withhold our favor, friendship and love from every able-bodied young man who will not enlist at his country's call- on the other hand to those who volunteer we proffer our most active service to relieve their wants, and promise them our brightest smiles and our highest esteem forever.

Resolved that not one of us will ever marry during this bloody struggle, but if the hearts of our lovers are too faint and their nerves too weak we are ready to go forth to meet out justice to Rebels and traitors.

Resolved that when the goal is past and a peaceful calm settles down on our triumphant and glorious republic, should any young man not having been engaged in this war, have the presumption to offer us his cowardly heart we will say unto him No never!, Never, No Never not I.

Thomas F. Miller

Thomas F. Miller

Camp Stanton, Tennessee

May 2nd, 1862

Mr. Ben. Newton

Sir-- I now take the present opportunity of communicating the news of the day. It has not been long since I forwarded a sheet to your columns informing you that your humble servant was still in the 29th Regiment of Illinois Volunteers; for which I feel very thankful for. For it has been through the protecting care of God alone that I am today favored highly above so many of our fellow beings. Today while I cast a backward glance into times past and forever gone it brings to my memory the pleasures that I have participated in with young men of this company that now sleeps the sleep of death. Young men that their friends held near and dear to them, but we need not murmur or complain at all this for a soldier's duties and intentions are to kill or get killed. For he that taketh up the sword shall perish by the sword. I have been extremely lucky so far. I have not been touched with a bullet yet but I assure you that they have sang some mournful songs around my ears, that made me feel like I was hardly safe in being there, but they were not intended for me. I have seen the boys fall lifeless on the ground by my side. Since I have been at this place I have witnessed more hard scenes and barbarity than I ever before dreamed of. We are now camped in as beautiful a place as I ever seen. We are situated on a dry elevated portion of land with running water on either side and the woods are thick and heavy which affords us a splendid shade, notwithstanding all this we do not enjoy our beautiful camping

ground nor have much pleasure on it for we are in a few miles of the enemy camp. We are advancing on them but very slow. We have left Pittsburg landing and advanced six or eight miles toward Corinth where the Rebels are camped. I tell you we are under strict orders at the present time. We are expecting to be attacked day and night. We now are camped on the ground that the Rebels held day before yesterday. Their picketts were on this camping ground then but when we advanced on them they give back and we hold the position now that they held a few days ago. We are now expecting that we will have to move this evening. We was ordered yesterday evening late to be all ready to move at a moments warning with one hundred Rounds of cartridges. I heard some very heavy cannonading yesterday in the direction of Corinth and it is rumored that General Benal has gone out and opened the Ball and if he has we will have to move soon though it may be uncorrect. Times here are very different to what I ever seen before. I am beginning to think that we can starve the Southern Confederacy to surrender in a few months; if we can't whip them sooner. For I never in all my life witnessed such hard times as are here visiting this country at the present. The citizens in this part of the country tell some doleful stories. Some of them say they haven't had any salt, sugar, molasses, or anything of that kind since last fall and I have all reason to believe it for since we been at this place coffee is worth 50 cents per pound, pork 10 dollars per hundred and corn and oats, wheat and such things cannot be had at any price. I have paid as high as 30 cents per dozen for eggs and glad to get them at that. The farmers are raising nothing at all. We

have passed by the finest of large farms and no person on them, with all the fencing burned and everything in a dilapidated condition. So far as I can see my opinion is that starvation and famine threatens the whole Southern Confederacy. There are now families within side of our own camping lines that is in a starving condition, that I know for I seen and heard for myself. I visited a house yesterday where there were four women that said they were out of most everything to eat though I did not pity them very much for their husbands were in the Secest army but said they were drafted and forced to go, that may be all, so.

Well Ben I would like very much to be back to work for you this summer for I prefer farming rather than fighting. Many times while in the lonesome and lonely soldiers tent at night when I am couched down on the cold^{and} damp with only one blanket to comfort me my mind strays of in curious and wonderful imaginations. The soldier has a great many things to bear on his mind. He has 2 chances one is whether he will be numbered in the next battle with the dead and wounded and be deprived of returning again to his native home and kind friends or whether he will go through clear and unhurt and be honorable discharged to go home crowned with victorys and once more rest in the arms of smiling peace.

Give my well wishes to all that should speak of me.

Yours

T. F. Miller

Camp near Corinth, Miss.

Mr. Ben. Newton

June 3rd 1862

Sir I take the present opportunity of writing to you though I have nothing of importance to write to you more than I am very glad that Corinth is evacuated and we will not have to fight to take the fort and fortifications at that place we are within 4 miles of Corinth laying behind our breast works, but are expecting every day to have to go in persuit of fleeing Rebels the supposition now is that we will have to go to Richmond to clear out old Neb Davis but it is uncertain where we will have to go, the weather is extremely hot and dry though health is generly good through out the camps. As I have nothing new to communicate I will not weary your patience by relating to you some old things that have passed. Camp life is a ignorant life we know nothing of what is going on only what we do ourselves.

Ben I want you to send me my watch and chain for which I will be much obliged to you besides amply rewarding you for your trouble for I never was in a place that I needed a watch half so much as I do here watches is the best property that is in camp to trade on or keep, you can place the watch and chain in a small case and they will come without any danger if you will please to send them I will run the risk of getting them, and not hold you responsible, if you cannot send it by mail you can express it to me if you send it direct it to Cairo in care of Captain Collins Company H 29 regiment of Illinois Vol. by placing it in a small

paper case and then enclosed with a wrapper it would be taken for a likeness and come safe.

Yours as ever.

T. F. Miller

Jackson, Tennessee

Nov.28/62

Mr. Benjamin Newton & Family

I now seat myself with my pen in hand for the express purpose of responding to yours of the 20th inst. which was read with due interest when received. It came to hand yesterday- happy was I once more to hear from you and your family to learn that you were all enjoying good health and still bore in mind your friend Thomas. I have often wondered in my own mind how it was that I did not receive any letter from you. I have almost arrived to the conclusion that you had ceased to exist, but on receiving your letter I am made to know that you are occupying the same old position.

Many has been the time that I have wished myself back living with Ben, though I have generally had very good health, and am at present enjoying unusually good health, and desire that when this shall have reached its destination it will find you and family blessed with the same. Well I imagine in my mind that there has been a great change in the times since I left there.

I would like very much to be back there and see the folks. I don't suppose that there are many young men in your neighborhood. I saw a young man the other day that said he was well acquainted with you, his name is R.M.Hillgore. He says he used to live on Raccoon. I recollect hearing you talk about the Hillgores and this is one of the same family. He is Orderly Sargeant

of Company E. 18th Reg. Ill Volunteers. He requested me to tell you that he would like very much to see you and also sends to you and your family his best wishes and due respects. Ben we have very exciting times down here at this time. The Rebels attacked a company of our boys at Henderson 15 miles from here and took the whole company prisoners, and we are looking every day to have a little fight at this place. We are expecting now to have to move from here and shortly to go South. I hope that we will for I want this war to be brought to a close and the way to do it is to move South and clean them out and be done with it.

I wrote John Lewis a letter a short time ago and requested of him to send me my watch and chain, not knowing that I would hear from you. I would like very much to have it and if he has not sent it when you receive this I will give the same to you for sending it that I proposed to him. I proposed to him that if he would send me the watch and chain I would give him five dollars, and send it when I received the watch. You can express the watch to Jackson, Tenn. The express line is open now from Jackson to Cairo. I will pay the expressage and run all the risks.

As I have written about all that I can think of I will close by asking you to write soon and give the news in full. You stated in your letter that you would like for me to come back and live with you when the war is over. I intend if I am so fortunate as to get through safe to come back to see you all for there is not a family in my circle of acquaintance that I think more of than Ben's.

You must excuse bad writing and write soon.

Yours,

Thomas F. Miller

Benton Barracks

Saint Louis, Mo.

Jan. 21, 1863

Mr. B. W. Newton

Sir

I again seat myself for the purpose of responding to your welcome letter of 16th Inst. which arrived here on yesterday. I immediately seat myself to prepare an answer to it for I assure you that I ever hail Roseville messages with pleasure. I was very happy to once more hear from you, and to learn of your being well and to know that you was still occupying your same old position at the Cross Roads. I suppose Ben there has been quite a change in the times since I was there and if you believe me there has been quite a change in myself since I left you if you could only be here and see me you would think so. The 29th Regt. of Ill. Vol. has just about played out. The boys could not get any furlough when we arrived here, and they have nearly all gone home anyhow there are now about one hundred and twenty five men in the Barracks. There is only six of our company here and I don't think that they will be here very long all that keeps me here is the money that is due me. We have not been paid for some time nor I don't think that we will be paid until we are exchanged and sent back into the field again.

Well Ben I suppose you are still on the same good old unchangeable Democratic platform. I would like very much to enjoy your presence once more in order to have a little quarrel on the present state of our national and political affairs. I think that

if I had the opportunity of seeing you I certainly could open your eyes and point out to you things that would scare you worse than a draft. Although there never was very much difference between your views and my own. I use to think that all you liked of being a good and true Republican was a little foresight and practise. Though Political affairs have all been dropped, but still I cling to the same principals that I have always fond to prove as I thought fruitfull and successful. This Emancipation bill of old Abraham has caused in some parts of the army considerable disturbance and is called the Lincoln Negro Proclamation as for my part I consider it a war proclamation. I don't think that old Abe ever intended to free the negroes or even propose such a thing. I look at the affair in this way. He considers himself at the head of the government and that he is compelled to adopt all plans that will be calculated to restore peace to one distracted Government, so I think that the president has after so long a time arrived to the conclusion that the thing that caused this great trouble will have to be removed before this thing can or will be settled. I don't think that it is the desire or wish of Mr. Lincoln to emancipate the slaves but he sees and that plainly to, that we cannot whip the south and let them hold their slaves it is too much like holding them up with one hand, and fighting them with the other. I have long since been convinced of this fact, and have often wondered what would be done with the negroes and haven't yet decided satisfactorily in my own mind what would or could be done with them. I am so far as myself concerned as much opposed to the Emancipation of the slaves as any man in the army or out of it the constitution of the

United States could be restored without, but at the present stage of the game. I am willing to free the last negro that is in the Southern Confederacy, but what we shall crush out this red hat rebellion and give to all traitors there just dues and recompense of reward. Tell Mr. Isaac Lewis that while I am giving to you my sentiments I think of him and the conversation that I have had with him concerning this before my enlistment also tell him that I feel confident that he is still as true a Republican as ever. Well Ben I will have to close, but before I shall have closed this I send my best respects to you and also to Melind and the children. I would love to see any persons in the world therefore I ask to be remembered by you and family for I'll assure you that you are remembered and highly respected by your

friend

Thomas F. Miller

Atlanta, Georgia

Oct. 1864

Dear Cousin

I once more through the mercies of the alwise being seat myself to write you a few lines to let you know that I am yet on the land and among the living with the forked end to the sand and the right side up with care. We came in this place one month ago. We had a light skirmish with the rebs, we got about 50 prisoners, they left a lot of their cannon here. We got between 40-50 large size guns besides a lot of small arms and ammunition they burnt up seven trains of cars loaded with arms and ammunition. I was one of the lucky boys that was first in the city. The town was surrendered to our Brigade Commander. So I will close for the present by writing the Soldiers Prayer.

Our father who art in Washington Uncle Abraham be thy name thy kingdom come thy will be done at the south as it is in the North, our daily rations of crackers and pork and forgive us our shortcomings as we forgive our quartermasters for thine is the power over the soldiers and negroes for the space of three years.

Amen

As I have no more paper, I shall have to quit for this time hoping to hear from you soon. So good-bye

Jacob T. Barnes

Sept. 23 Camp Wallace Ky.

5 miles South of Cinn.

Mr. Benjamin W. Newton

Dear Cousin

It is with pleasure I take my pen in hand to inform you that I am well and hope these few lines may find you in good health. I have had chills and lung fever and was very sick for several days, but am getting stout again. This Regt. has had the damdest time since we came to Ky. that ever was we have camped on every hill in this county. We have laid on our arms half of the night and half of the time only half enough to eat. I guess we have settled ourselves as we have been in one camp for over a week. We marched 2 nights in sucession 20 mile to and the same back. For the particulars of that march I refer you to Barnet Lewis. We have got no tents yet and a great number of the Reg. is sick. None bad mostly chills, rheumatism, sore eyes, mumps, etc. This is the hilliest place in the world- no exception. Water is scarce and hard to get. We have to carry it a mile or two. It hain't rained here since the flood from the looks of things. I would like this thing of war very well if I could get some letters. I have wrote 3 letters and dam the answer I have got _____. We have intrenchments all around us and cannon mounted. There is a large union army on these hills. The word is that the rebels is retreating. I don't know how we can fight on these hills. I would like to know what has become of the 71st Reg. Tell all the boys to write to us.

Ben you may thank your God that you live way down in old

Pittsburg Landing Tennessee

April 20th, 1862

Mr. Benjamin Newton once more through the tender mercies and kind protection of the devine being I am favored with another opportunity of addressing you. It has not been very long since I written to you but as I did not have anything of note to write I deem it necessary that I should give you a limited history of transactions that have transpired from that time up to the present. When I wrote to you last I was very unwell and had been for some time but I am at present gaining and getting along as well as could be expected under the existing circumstances. Though I am not by any means vigorous or stout though. I think I will get a long now without any trouble. Well Ben I reckon that you would like to hear some of the particulars of the Battle that was fought at this place on the 6th and 7th. Perhaps you have heard all about it and know as much of the particulars as I do but I will weary your patience to some extent in relating to you a few things pertaining to the hot and bloody conflict that has been gone through at Pittsburg landing. On Sunday morning at an early hour the musketry and canonading commenced but a short distance from our quarters which denounced to us an approach of the enemy. There was a great bustle and uproar in camp. The long role commenced beating and the word fall in - fall in was heard all over the camp but it was but a short time until the Regiment was in a line of battle and advancing toward the enemy but did not advance far until the two armies came in contact with each other, which was a warm and hard contest but the Rebels having

a superior number to ours we was compelled to retreat but did it in good order and soon formed a line and waited for another attack, which was not long. They come on to us with a rush as though they intended to scare us out but we opened fire and held our position until the Rebels run and we after them. But they got reinforced and we retreated and them after us and so it went all day. First one would have to retreat and then another but Rebels gained ground all day. A Sunday and Sunday evening about sundown things looked very gloom and treatening. The enemy had us drove about as far as we could go for the Tennessee River but on Sunday Evening General Beuel reinforced us with forty thousand men which was gladly received when the news came that Beuel had arrived such shouts have never before been heard on American soil. For if they had not have come I believe we would have had to surrendered at dark. The fighting ceased on Sunday evening but on Monday morning it was

Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee

March 29th A. D. 1862

Mr. B. W. Newton

Sir- I once more take my pen in hand to let you know my whereabouts and present condition. I received yours of the 4th of Feb. and was much gratified to hear that you was all well and borne in mind your most sincere friend T. F. I was at Fort Donalson when I received your letter but I am several miles further in to Dixie. I am on the Tennessee River within 25 miles of the Mississippi Line. We are camped on the west side of the River. We have a large force at this place. There was eighty boat loads of troops come up when I did and they have been coming all the time for near two weeks. There is now one hundred and forty Regiments here at this point.

We are in 25 miles of a large Secesh army. Supposed to be one hundred thousand strong but as to the truth of it I can't say how many they have got but there is a camp not far off, for our picketts have taken several of them prisoners. You must excuse me for not writing sooner for I am very unwell. I have not been able for duty for nearly two months. I have not stood guard nor done any work since the 12th of Feb. I have been part of the time not able to get out of my tent, but I am a little better to-day but I met with a bad affair on yesterday. I got three of my fingers on the left hand scalded nearly off. So taking the thing in consideration I am just played out. We got our pay yesterday for the first since I been in the service. The weather today appears to me as warm as August. The old Union farmers

here are plowin and getting ready to commence planting corn. The fruit trees are all out in full bloom and as fine weather as ever I seen, It appears to me as though I had ought to be a plowing on some farm. There is a great amount of sickness in the army at present. We have lost three men at the hospital of sickness since the fight at Donalson out of our own company and our first Lieutenant died last night which was a deadly shock on Company A. Though a sickman is no more cared for here than if he was a nag. If a man gets sick and goes to the hospital he's sure to die. I have not yet been to the hospital but have been ordered to go there several times but managed to get out of it. You must write soon and relate the general news.

Yours affectionately

T. F. Miller

Fort Donalson Tenn

Feb. 18th 62

Mr. Ben. Newton

Sir

No doubt but what you heard of the Battle at this place and also of the result of it and perhaps have had a correct account of it, but I avail myself of the opportunity of penning down to you some of the most interesting particulars of the engagement for your special qualification on Tuesday the 11th of Feb. at 4 o'clock P.M. we moved from Fort Henry in the direction of this place, the columns lined the road until 8 o'clock at night before camping when we halted and stayed during the night at 7 o'clock next morning the troops marched again being only eight miles from Fort Donalson we arrived in sight of the camp at 3 o'clock and drove in their out posts and still advanced on the enemy, and after night as we were advancing toward the camp we was fired into and lost a few of our boys it was a lot of Rebel Cavalry secreted in the bushes they only fired one volley and ran, then we were drawn out of the road in the brush and stood in line of battle for awhile but was not attacked then we went back up the road a few rods and slept on our arms all night. Then on the morning of the 13th as the sun rose clear and warm the artillery commenced in all directions which denounced to us that the fight had commenced for by this time we had them entirely surrounded by land and six gunboats commanding the river the artillery occupied the day flying on each other and occasionally a volley of musketry was heard through there was

not much work that day for the infantry but on the morning of the 14th about day light the Rebels marched out from behind their breast works and attacked our troops and the action was a hot one I assure you it was a hard time on our boys for we had been in line of battle for nearly two days and nights and the ground most of the time covered with snow, the fight continued until Saturday night which was one day an half of the night, and about midnight the Rebels displayed a white flag denouncing their surrender, they surrendered, and gave themselves up which was a great sacrifice to them we took ten thousand prisoners and one hundred and ten pieces of artillery and commissarys enough to support our army six months though the losses on both sides were very great though I think that the Rebels loss was much greater than ours, but it would be hard to tell how many was killed on either side. We are now in the camp at Fort Donalson taking our rest. I must say to you before closing that I never before knew what hard times were. I have come to the conclusion that if I was back at Bens I would be satisfied to stay. Since I have been in a battle and afterwards walked over the battlefield and seen hundreds of men lying dead and wounded on the ground it has about satisfied me to live in peace at home. I am not well nor have been for nearly a month and I am not hardly able to march, but if we get to stay here a few days I think I will be able to keep with my company, and if we don't I will have to be left behind you must not forget your friend.

Thomas F. Miller

Camp Calhoun Ky

Jan 15th 1862

Loved ones at home. I am in good health this morning; and the Camp is restless the 31st Reg Received orders last night to strike tents this morning at 6 o'clock and the tents are all down now and our boys are nearly all with ^{them} at this moment therefore I find time to write to you; their destination is unknown to me; and our future movements are equally in the dark to me; there are some 8 or 9 Regiments in this Camp; the 31st has been here longer than any of the rest; their move may indicate an onward ^{more} of the whole force here; and it may only be for the purpose of scattering the Camp and as we were among the last here we may be retained here as post guards but if the object is onward and to battle I do not expect the 43rd to be left behind but as I said we are in blissful ignorance of the whole programme; it is understood that the troops are moving forward from Cairo; and also from Memphis & Vicks but you have a better chance to know the truth than we have

It is said here in Camp that the mail is to be stopped to morrow; and that the Telegraph is all ready stopped. The truth of these things I do not know but be that as it may I expect we will still have an opportunity to communicate by private conveyances; as we have visitors here almost all the time. Isaac Furgeson is now in Camp Lewis Walker & James Caruthers are here and others also. Your last letter that came to hand was dated on the 6th inst. I have also received one from A. W. dated 7th inst. he writes as though he was excited. I am in hopes you may all have become calm before now. if not be quiet so far as I am concerned at least. Burgess has just returned from the Camp of the 3rd it is raining and I pity the boys but cannot help them they say it is their luck to move in the rain and mud. and they also complain of their field officers we have good officers but Col Steel has resigned & we will lose him in a few days in fact he has all ready given up the command entirely all speak well of Steel and regret his determination to retire. And I have the good will of all the boys in the Company so far as I know and the friendship of all the officers.

Steel's resignation will cause a change in several
 places and my special friend H. Major is
 an aspirant for promotion but will not
 get a respectable recommendation from the Regt.
 I have concluded to be hands off as far
 as I can treating others as they treated me
 when I was in trouble through this un-
 manly course others was silent and even
 disposed to eulogise him for his success &c
 I considered it my turn to be silent but
 of course I am not displeased at the
 present prospect of seeing him held forth
 in his proper character and also his friends
 being held in some degree responsible also
 Mc Lane will not be recommended as Capt and
 for no other reason than having made the
 Capt of Company A his pet; But I will stop this
 The postmaster has not yet come; I would
 be glad to have you come and visit me but
 can say nothing on that subject now; I am
 without funds but I am glad to tell you
 that I am as well off as others and that
 I do not need funds while I remain in good
 health because I can live as well as the
 rest on the Rations furnished &c it is true my
 over shirts have become entirely too small &c
 would be glad you could make me some new ones

And my confidence is that the time is at
 hand when we will be permitted to see each
 other, but if in the providence of an all-wise God I
 should be otherwise, be patient and pray for
 Remembering that God rules and can sustain
 his people among Rebel bullets and that
 he can call them to himself by means of
 a Rebel bullet and that it is our duty to
 be submissive and trust in him; I have
 been talking with some of the officers and it
 is understood that we will make an effort
 to have our companions to meet each other
 at Laredo, Tex. so as to be company for each
 other on the way and while here but they
 like me are not willing to leave them
 come unless they shall have money on
 hand; I will keep you posted as well as
 I can and as often as I can conveniently
 I now nine days since your last was
 written; I have written by almost every mail
 to some one in the neighborhood but if
 the mail is stopped as now said it will
 be we will have to do the best we can
 and try to live by faith.
 Farewell Loved ones C. W. Moss

REPORT

OF THE

ADJUTANT GENERAL

OF THE

STATE OF INDIANA.

1861-65

VOLUME II.—1861-1865.

CONTAINING ROSTERS OF

GOVERNOR'S MILITARY STAFF, INDIANA OFFICERS COMMISSIONED BY THE
PRESIDENT, OFFICERS AND HISTORICAL MEMORANDA OF INDIANA REGIMENTS,
NUMBERED FROM THE SIXTH TO THE SEVENTY-FOURTH INCLUSIVE.

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1865.

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FORTY-SECOND REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEERS—Continued.

tol grounds, on which occasion Major Gen'l Sherman was present. Addresses were made by Governor Morton and Gen'l Sherman. In a few days after the regiment was finally discharged from service.

During its term of service the Forty Second has lost in killed, wounded and missing six hundred and twenty-nine, of which number eighty-six were killed on the field, four hundred and forty-three were wounded and one hundred taken prisoners. Its

strength at the time of its muster-out was eight hundred and forty-six, officers and men.

The regiment has participated in battles and skirmishes as follows: Wartrace, Perryville, Stone River, Elk River, Chicamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Ringold, Rocky Face Ridge, Resacca, Alatoona Mountains, Kenesaw, Chattahoochie River, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Janesboro, Savannah, Charleston, Black River and Bentonville.

FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEERS.

Company.	NAMES AND RANK.	Residence.	Date of Commission.	Date of Muster.	REMARKS.
	<i>Colonel.</i>				
	GEORGE K. STEELE -----	Rockville -----	Sept. 28, 1861.	Jan. 2, 1862.	Resigned Jan. 16, '62.
	WILLIAM E. MCLEAN -----	Terre Haute -----	Feb. 16, 1862.	May 12, 1862.	Resigned May 12, '63; recommissioned.
	WILLIAM E. MCLEAN -----	Terre Haute -----	June 25, 1862.	May 12, 1862.	Mustered out May 17, '65; term expired.
	JOHN C. MAJOR -----	Bowling Green -----	May 20, 1865.	May 22, 1865.	Mustered out with Regiment.
	<i>Lieutenant Colonel.</i>				
	WILLIAM E. MCLEAN -----	Terre Haute -----	Sept. 11, 1861.	Sept. 12, 1861.	Promoted Colonel.
	WILLIAM L. FARROW -----	Greencastle -----	Feb. 16, 1862.	May 12, 1862.	Discharged July 16, '63; re-entered the service as Lieut. Colonel 78th Regiment.
	JOHN C. MAJOR -----	Bowling Green -----	Oct. 4, 1862.	Oct. 4, 1862.	Promoted Colonel.
	WESLEY W. NORRIS -----	Hartford, Vigo co. -----	May 20, 1865.	May 22, 1865.	Mustered out with Regiment.

INDIANA VOLUNTEERS.

FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEERS—Continued.

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Company.	NAMES AND RANK.	Residence.	Date of		REMARKS.
			Commission.	Date of Muster.	
	<i>Major.</i>				
	WILLIAM L. FARROW -----	Greencastle -----	Oct. 22, 1861 --	Nov. 5, 1861 --	Promoted Lieutenant Colonel.
	JOHN C. MAJOR -----	Bowling Green --	March 7, 1862 --	May 12, 1862 --	Promoted Lieutenant Colonel.
	WESLEY W. NORRIS -----	Hartford, Vigo co. --	Oct. 18, 1862 --	Oct. 18, 1862 --	Promoted Lieutenant Colonel.
	CHARLES W. MOSS -----	Ashboro -----	May 20, 1865 --	May 22, 1865 --	Mustered out with Regiment.
	<i>Adjutant.</i>				
	MILTON J. COOPER -----	Greencastle -----	Oct. 10, 1861 --	Oct. 11, 1861 --	Mustered out Oct. 25, '64; term expired.
	HOWARD R. LOWDER -----	Springville -----	Nov. 19, 1864 --	Nov. 19, 1864 --	Mustered out with Regiment.
	<i>Quartermaster.</i>				
	WILLIAM DURHAM -----	Terre Haute -----	Oct. 11, 1861 --	Sept. 27, 1861 --	Assigned to Co. "H," Jan. 20, '62.
	ALFRED BURLEY -----	Greencastle -----	Jan. 20, 1862 --	Oct. 2, 1861 --	Resigned Feb. 28, '62.
	DOUGLASS PUTNAM -----	Terre Haute -----	March 1, 1862 --	Oct. 2, 1862 --	Promoted Captain Co. "G."
	WILLIAM W. PAYNE -----	Bainbridge -----	May 26, 1864 --		Mustered out as Sergeant Co. "B," with Regiment.
	<i>Chaplain.</i>				
	NATHANIEL P. HEATH -----	Sullivan -----	Oct. 15, 1861 --	Sept. 27, 1861 --	Resigned March 26, '62.
	E. T. COOK -----		Aug. 9, 1862 --	Aug. 9, 1862 --	Resigned Aug. 9, '63.
	JOHN WILLIAMS -----	Ashboro -----	Oct. 7, 1863 --	Oct. 29, 1863 --	Mustered out with Regiment.
	<i>Surgeon.</i>				
	WILLIAM C. SMYDTH -----	Worthington -----	Oct. 22, 1861 --	Oct. 23, 1861 --	Mustered out May 7, '62.
	MILTON D. DARNALL -----	Bainbridge -----	May 30, 1862 --	May 30, 1862 --	Died Sept. 16, '62, at Cairo, Illinois.
	HAMILTON E. ELLIS -----	Greencastle -----	Oct. 9, 1862 --	Oct. 9, 1862 --	Resigned June 18, '63.
	GONSALVO C. SMYTH -----	Fillmore -----	June 18, 1863 --	June 18, 1863 --	Awaiting sentence of a general court martial.

FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT INFANTRY

FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEERS—Continued.

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FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT INFANTRY

Company.	NAME AND RANK.	Residence.	Date of Commission.	Date of Muster.	REMARKS.
F	<i>Captain.</i>				
	ALEXANDER H. GAINNEY	Springville	Aug. 29, 1861	Sept. 27, 1861	Resigned Jan. 20, '62.
	JOSEPH LANE	Springville	March 1, 1862	March 1, 1862	Killed at battle of Marks' Mill, Ark., April 25, '64.
	JAMES B. DYER	Springville	April 26, 1864	July 1, 1864	Mustered out with Regiment.
	<i>First Lieutenant.</i>				
	JOSEPH LANE	Springville	Aug. 29, 1861	Sept. 27, 1861	Promoted Captain.
	JOHN P. POTTER	Springville	March 31, 1862	March 31, 1862	Resigned May 16, '62.
	JOHN BUGHER	Springville	May 17, 1862	May 17, 1862	Resigned June 27, '63.
	JAMES B. DYER	Springville	June 28, 1863	Jan. 23, 1864	Promoted Captain.
	JOHN EAST	Springville	April 26, 1864		Mustered out as 1st Sergeant; term expired.
G	MILES F. RICHESON	Bloomfield	Feb. 11, 1865	March 14, 1865	Mustered out with Regiment.
	<i>Second Lieutenant.</i>				
	IRA H. RAINWATER	Springville	Aug. 29, 1861	Sept. 27, 1861	Resigned Jan. 24, '62.
	JOHN BUGHER	Springville	March 31, 1862	March 31, 1862	Promoted 1st Lieutenant.
	JOHN R. HALL	Springville	May 17, 1862		Revoked; mustered out as Private.
	JAMES B. DYER	Springville	March 10, 1863	March 10, 1863	Promoted 1st Lieutenant.
	CHARLES W. HOLLAND	Springville	March 20, 1865	March 25, 1865	Mustered out with Regiment.
	<i>Captain.</i>				
	CHARLES W. MOSS	Ashboro	Sept. 20, 1861	Sept. 20, 1861	Promoted Major.
	DOUGLAS PUTNAM	Terre Haute	May 20, 1865	May 22, 1865	Mustered out with Regiment.

First Lieutenant.

MILTON LEWIS WYETH-----	Terre Haute-----
JONATHAN M. JOHNS -----	Terre Haute-----
WILLIAM O. BURGET -----	Terre Haute-----

Second Lieutenant.

JONATHAN M. JOHNS-----	Terre Haute-----
WILLIAM L. MARTIN-----	Terre Haute-----
WILLIAM O. BURGET -----	Terre Haute-----
MURRAY DAVIS -----	Ashboro-----

H

Captain.

WILLIAM LANE -----	Greencastle-----
WILLIAM E. WHITRIDGE -----	Greencastle-----
WALLACE L. DAGGY-----	Greencastle-----

First Lieutenant.

ALFRED BURLEY-----	Greencastle-----
WILLIAM DURHAM -----	Terre Haute-----
WILLIAM E. WHITRIDGE -----	Greencastle-----
MILTON W. WOODRUFF-----	Greencastle-----
JOHN W. COOPER -----	Greencastle-----
WALLACE L. DAGGY-----	Greencastle-----
JAMES E. LILLEY-----	Greencastle-----

Second Lieutenant.

MOSES GROOMS -----	Greencastle-----
TARVIN C. GROOMS -----	Greencastle-----
WILLIAM E. WHITRIDGE-----	Greencastle-----
MILTON W. WOODRUFF-----	Greencastle-----
JOHN W. COOPER -----	Greencastle-----
WALLACE L. DAGGY-----	Greencastle-----
JAMES E. LILLEY-----	Greencastle-----
DANIEL SULLIVAN-----	Greencastle-----

Sept. 20, 1861	Sept. 20, 1861	Died.
May 14, 1862	May 14, 1862	Mustered out May 17, '65; term expired.
May 20, 1865	May 22, 1865	Mustered out with Regiment.

Sept. 20, 1861	Sept. 20, 1861	Promoted 1st Lieutenant.
May 14, 1862	July 20, 1862	Mustered out Nov. 7, '64.
Jan. 11, 1865	Jan. 17, 1865	Promoted 1st Lieutenant.
May 20, 1865	May 29, 1865	Mustered out with Regiment.

Oct. 2, 1861	Oct. 2, 1861	Resigned July 5, '63.
July 6, 1863	Aug. 7, 1863	Mustered out Dec. 1, '64; term expired.
Jan. 11, 1865	Jan. 13, 1865	Mustered out with Regiment.

Oct. 2, 1861	Oct. 2, 1861	Assigned as Quartermaster Jan. 20, '62.
Jan. 20, 1862	Sept. 27, 1861	Assigned from Quartermaster; resigned March 3, 1863.
March 4, 1863	March 5, 1863	Promoted Captain.
July 6, 1863	Aug. 9, 1863	Resigned Feb. 27, '64.
Feb. 28, 1864	May 3, 1864	Promoted Captain Co. "C."
Oct. 22, 1864	Nov. 11, 1864	Promoted Captain.
Jan. 11, 1865	Jan. 16, 1865	Mustered out with Regiment.

Oct. 2, 1861	Oct. 2, 1861	Resigned May 6, '62.
May 10, 1862	May 10, 1862	Resigned Oct. 18, '62.
Sept. 10, 1862	Sept. 11, 1862	Promoted 1st Lieutenant.
March 4, 1863	March 5, 1863	Promoted 1st Lieutenant.
June 6, 1863	Aug. 7, 1863	Promoted 1st Lieutenant.
Oct. 14, 1864	Nov. 3, 1864	Promoted 1st Lieutenant.
Oct. 22, 1864	Nov. 11, 1864	Promoted 1st Lieutenant.
Jan. 16, 1865	Jan. 28, 1865	Mustered out with Regiment.

INDIANA VOLUNTEERS.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Fort O.F. Smith, N.Y.
June 15, 1861.

Dear friend Josiah,-

I received your letter of March 25th. at Fort Phil Keamy the 1st. inst. just two days before I left for this Post. Orders came in the same mail for our Company to go from Fort Phil Keamy and take Post here and fell my lot to bring my Company. I arrived here on the 11th. inst. and found the Post beautifully situated on the bank of the Big Horn River and surrounded by a splendid grass and farm country, which are the main attributes for sport and sustenance as any Post on the plains. The Indians are not very troublesome here just now having gone down below this Spring. We look for them soon though.

I guess you must have had a gay trip to Springfield and back. Did Joe Donahue go? I should like to have been along. It happens that there is a train just from Va. City going down to Phil. with provisions by which I can send this letter, otherwise it might be 6 months before I could send a letter down. I brought the first mail they have had since last November tolerably regular.

When you start to Phil. Keamy come 100 miles further north and I will go with you for a few days. There are thousands of all kinds of game here. To give you an idea of the amount of game there is in this country I will tell you what we done on the road up here. Killed 2 bears, 7 elks, about 40 buffaloes, deer and antelopes too numerous to count, and captured 4 young bear cubs, one badger, 2 young elks, deer and antelopes 'till we couldn't reach, in short a party of hunters could get as many of all kinds of animals as they

wanted. I got my commission as 1st.Lieut. too in the mail by which your letter came to rank as such from Dec.21,1866,and am now leading the Company to which I properly belong,which suits me to a T.Y.T.

There is no prospect of my getting home befor one year at least. I am becoming used to it now and don't care so much.

I can think of nothing more to write. My kindest regards to your brother, Ed. Joe Donnahue and-----, and when you write give my respects to your people at home.

Very truly your friend,

REFERENCE
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